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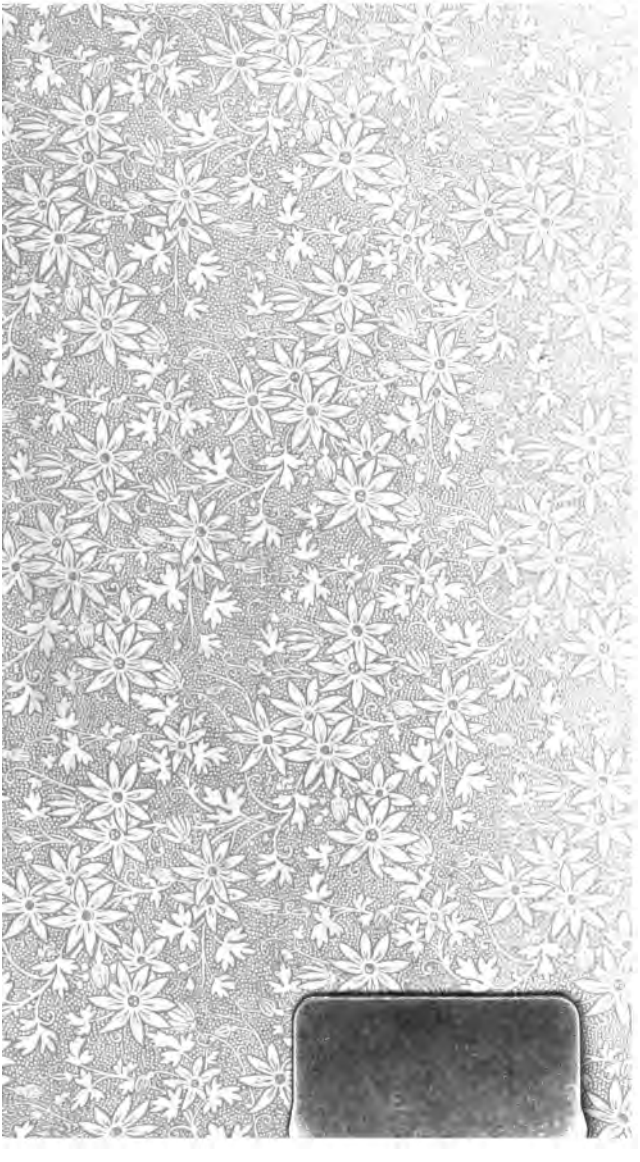
Pastoral Comforts

J. D. KNOWLES



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PASTORAL COMFORTS.

Pastoral Comforts,

OR

SCRIPTURE TEXTS WITH PRAYERS THEREON, ILLUSTRATING THE OFFICE FOR THE VISITATION OF THE SICK,

FOR THE USE OF

THE CLERGY, DISTRICT VISITORS, AND INVALIDS.

BY THE

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VICAR OF GLOSSOP, AND RURAL DEAN.

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1885.

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Preface.

THIS little book makes no pretence to being a complete Manual for the Clergy in the Visitation of the Sick. It is intended rather for the general use of Visitors in chronic cases of sickness. The Texts and Prayers are so arranged that, with the help of the Index, and by alteration of the personal pronouns, application may be made, when necessary, to any particular case. It has been thought better to give the simple words of Holy Scripture without comment, so that such special lessons and exhortations may be grounded thereon as may seem fitting to the occasion.

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Pastoral Comforts.

I.

The Salutation.

1. The Lord shall give His people the blessing of peace.

2. The meek-spirited shall possess the earth: and shall be refreshed in the multitude of peace.

3. Keep innocency, and take heed unto the thing that is right: for that shall bring a man peace at the last.

4. I will hearken what the Lord God will say concerning me: for He shall speak peace unto His people, and to His saints that they turn not again.

5. Lord, Thou wilt ordain peace for us: for Thou also hast wrought all our works in us.

6. When a man's ways please the Lord, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him.

7. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

8. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto

[1] Ps. xxix. 10. [2] Ps. xxxvii. 11. [3] Ibid v. 38. [4] Ps. lxxxv. 8. [5] Isa. xxvi. 12. [6] Prov. xvi. 7. [7] Prov. xii. 17. [8] S. John xiv. 27.

you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

9. The Day-spring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

10. The peace of God which passeth understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

11. Let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body.

12. The Word which God sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ.

13. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.

14. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

15. Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ.

[9] S. Luke i. 78, 79. [10] Phil. iv. 7. [11] Col. iii. 15. [12] Acts x. 36. [13] Heb. xii. 14. [14] 2 Tim. ii. 22. [15] Heb. xiii. 20, 21.

Prayer—The Message of Peace.

O God of Peace, who broughtest from the dead our Lord and Saviour Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep: We pray Thee, let that blessed legacy of Peace He left with His disciples rest upon this household. Look upon them as Thy sheep indeed, for whom Christ died, and keep them in Thy fold, the Church, true members of that Body to which Jesus is the Head. Visit them in all their afflictions. Give them light amidst the darkness, guiding them with faith and hope along the way of Peace. Let not their heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. Especially, we pray Thee, look with mercy upon this Thy servant,—close his ears to the noise and tumult of the world, and calm all his anxieties as to the things of this life, that he may be able to commune secretly with Thee, and hear Thy still small voice, which speaketh peace to all who have good will to love and serve Thee, turning from their evil ways. Instruct him how to mortify all former lusts, and follow righteousness, and faith, and peace. Direct him to the Lamb Immaculate, Who is the Truth, the Way, the Life, that, clinging fast to that strong Hand, he may be raised above the threatening troubles of this world, and carried through all its storms, until he reach the Heavenly Zion. Number him among Thy people, who

shall hear those most sweet words of welcome, "Come, ye blessed of My Father," when Thy love shall wipe away all tears, and death shall be no more, nor grief, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain. Enrich us all with peace which passeth understanding, that we may thus, with joyful hearts, give to Thee all glory in Thy Holy Temple; and, forgetting all the troubles of this mortal life, may render unto Thee all praise and glory, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

II.

The Anthem, Part I.

1. I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me.

2. We have sinned with our fathers, we have done amiss, and dealt wickedly.

3. We acknowledge, O Lord, our wickedness, and the iniquity of our fathers: for we have sinned against Thee: do not abhor us for Thy Name's sake.

4. O remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: for we are come to great misery.

[1] Exod. xx. 5. [2] Ps. cvi. 6. [3] Jer. xiv. 20, 21. [4] Ps. lxxix. 8.

5. Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever.

6. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth: but according to Thy mercy think Thou upon me, O Lord, for Thy goodness.

7. Turn Thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.

8. The Lord is merciful and gracious, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

9. Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out.

10. If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it? For there is mercy with Thee: therefore shalt Thou be feared.

11. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, long-suffering, and of great goodness. He will not alway be chiding: neither keepeth He His anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins: nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses.

12. Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord; though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

[5] Isa. lxiv. 9. [6] Ps. xxv. 6. [7] Ps. li. 9, 10. [8] Exod. xxxiv. 6, 7. [9] Acts iii. 19. [10] Ps. cxxx. 3, 4. [11] Ps. ciii. 8-12. [12] Isa. l. 18.

13. Jesus said unto the woman, Neither do I condemn thee: go and sin no more.

[13] S. John viii. 11.

Prayer—Remembrance of Iniquities.

Almighty Father, Who rememberest iniquity, and notest in Thy Book each sin that we commit: We thank Thee that in mercy Thou dost stop us in the way of peril, and dost awaken our conscience to the dangers we are in by reason of our sin. Remind us at all times by Thy chastenings of those forgotten sins which still require repentance, for they are not hid from Thee. And while we call to mind our sins, we beseech Thee, call to mind Thy mercies, which have been ever of old, and are for evermore in Jesus Christ. In Thy mercy lead us to true repentance, ere it be too late. Bless Thy rod to all who suffer; *(especially)* make it as a staff to bring the wanderers back repenting to their Father's Home. O Lord of mercy and compassion, who dost always pity sinners, be not angry with us for ever; but so far as the east is from the west, and high as Heaven is from the earth, put away all our sins from us; heal all our infirmities, and blot out our iniquities in the precious Blood of Christ. And as the Publican who stood afar off, for the sake of his humility was heard, so, for the sake of His

humility, who, though One with Thee, His Father, yet for our sakes took the form of a servant, even Jesus Christ, be merciful to us, and make our sins, though deep as scarlet, white as snow; though red like crimson, make them be as wool. The more we hide our sins, the more Thou bringest them to open day—in mercy guide us, that not we but Thou mayest hide them. Let those sufferings, which we deserve and bear as sinners, have no power to drive us further still away from Thee, but rather make them help to purge us here, and train us up to praise Thy Holy Name with honour and thanksgiving, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

III.

The Anthem, Part II.

1. O God, wherefore art Thou absent from us so long: why is Thy wrath so hot against the sheep of Thy pasture? O think upon Thy congregation: whom Thou hast purchased and redeemed of old.

2. O my God, spare me, according to the greatness of Thy mercy.

3. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with Thine ears consider my calling: hold not Thy peace at my tears.

[1] Psalm lxxiv. 1, 2. [2] Neh. xiii. 22. [3] Ps. xxxix. 13-15.

For I am a stranger with Thee. and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength; before I go hence, and be no more seen.

4. I will be merciful to their unrighteousness: and their iniquities will I remember no more.

5. Ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation, received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious Blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

6. Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.

7. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

8. You being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.

9. Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word. and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

[4] Heb. viii. 12. [5] 1 Pet. i. 18, 19. [6] Titus ii. 14. [7] Isa. lv. 7. [8] Col. ii. 13. [9] S. John v. 24.

Prayer—Pleading the Precious Blood.

O Blessed Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, spare us, we beseech Thee, who have justly merited Thy chastisements. We do confess that we have wandered from Thy presence, for Thou dost never leave those who willingly abide with Thee; but by our own fault, our most grievous fault, Thou hast been absent from us. Think upon Thy congregation, whom thou hast redeemed of old. We are but strangers in the land, and sojourners as all our fathers were, but ere we lose ourselves in this dark wilderness, O spare us yet a little while, that we may repent and turn to Thee. Touch our hearts with some true feeling of the bitter pains Thou didst endure for us. And make us thus look on Thee Whom we have pierced. Convince us of our part in Thy most cruel death, and let the thought of Thee thus wounded, bruised, and dying on the Cross for us, so wound and bruise and soften our hard hearts, that we may feel a true contrition for our sins, and do Thou pardon and forgive them all, for Thine own merit's sake. Lord, look not on our sinfulness, but look upon the pains Thou didst undergo for our sins. Remember the anguish Thou didst endure when Thou madest Thy soul an offering for sins. Behold the wounds wherewith for our transgression Thou wast wounded. Look upon the precious

Blood which Thou didst shed forth for us, which now Thou pleadest with the Father constantly, and which on every Christian Altar we shew forth until Thou come. Behold that Body broken and that Blood outpoured, and spare us in Thy love, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

IV.

The Respond.

1. I was afraid of the anger and hot displeasure wherewith the Lord was hot against you to destroy you. But the Lord hearkened unto me at that time also.

2. The Lord may turn from the fierceness of His anger, and shew thee mercy, and have compassion upon thee.

3. His wrath endureth but the twinkling of an eye, and in His pleasure is life: Heaviness may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

4. Thou hast forgiven the offence of Thy people: and covered all their sins. Thou hast taken away all Thy displeasure: and turned Thyself from Thy wrathful indignation. Turn us then, O God, our Saviour, and let Thine anger cease from us. Wilt Thou be

[1] Deut. ix. 19. [2] Deut. xiii. 17. [3] Ps. xxx. 5. [4] Ps. lxxxv. 25.

displeased at us for ever: and wilt Thou stretch out Thy wrath from one generation to another?

5. He will not alway be chiding: neither keepeth He His anger for ever. He hath not dealt with us after our sins: nor rewarded us according to our wickednesses. For look how high the Heaven is in comparison of the earth: so great is His mercy also toward them that fear Him.

6. For My Name's sake will I defer Mine anger, and for My praise will I refrain for thee, that I cut thee not off.

7. He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy.

8. Return thou backsliding Israel, saith the Lord, and I will not cause mine anger to fall upon you: for I am merciful, saith the Lord, and I will not keep Mine anger for ever.

9. Put me not to rebuke, O Lord, in Thine anger: neither chasten me in Thy heavy displeasure.

10. Shew us Thy mercy, O God: and grant us Thy salvation.

[5] Ps. ciii. 9. [6] Isa. xlviii. 9. [7] Mic. vii. 18. [8] Jer. iii. 12. [9] Ps. xxxv. 3. [10] Ps. lxxxv. 7.

Prayer—God's wrath endureth not for ever.

O Heavenly Father, look with mercy and compassion on Thy children when beset with trials and afflictions.

(*Especially*) Lay upon us Thy light yoke and easy burden in the place of this heavy weight and sore burden of sin. Let not the fire of Thy displeasure burn against us to destroy us, but in mercy hear, and spare us for the Saviour's sake. Look upon us in Thy great compassion, for we are Thy people, purchased with the Blood of Christ; and He has covered all our sins. Remember that Great Sacrifice, which He has offered up, and let Thine anger cease from us. For Thy Name's sake, O Lord,—Thy Name of love and mercy, cut not off Thy servants in displeasure, but refrain Thine anger, that in godly fear and contrite humility we may return to Thee, and find the joy and health Thou hast in store for all Thy faithful children. Lord, as Thou for but one moment didst appear to hide Thy face from Jesus on the Cross—one moment, as compared with that eternity of glory which belonged to Him, Who suffered those long hours of agony,—so make our short afflictions seem but as a passing cloud to make us feel our desolation. Turn not Thy face from us, lest we be troubled. Let not our iniquities make separation between us and Thee. Retain not in the Book of Thy remembrance sins we have forgotten. O Lord, be Thou our helper; and as Thou didst raise up Jesus from the dead, so raise us from this death of sin to life and righteousness. Withdraw not Thou Thy face, lest darkness and despair over-

weight our souls, but let the light of grace and favour shine upon us from Thy Presence, where at Thy right Hand our Saviour intercedes for us for evermore. Amen.

V.

The Invitation.

1. Is any among you afflicted? let him pray.

2. Call upon Me in the time of trouble: so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise Me.

3. O put your trust in Him alway, ye people: pour out your hearts before Him, for God is our hope.

4. Pray for one another, that ye may be healed; the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

5. But when ye pray, do not use vain repetitions, as the heathen do; for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them; for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask Him.

6. Men ought always to pray and not to faint. Be ye therefore sober, and pray without ceasing.

7. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by

[1] Jas. v. 13. [2] Ps. l. 15. [3] Ps. lxii. 8. [4] Jas. v. 16. [5] S. Matt. vi. 7, 8. [6] S. Luke xviii. 1. [7] Phil. iv. 6.

prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

8. We do not present our supplications before Thee, O God, for our righteousnesses, but for Thy great mercies.

9. Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near.

10. The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him : to all that call upon Him in truth.

11. Whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

12. This is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us.

13. I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain : that whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My Name, He may give it you.

14. Remember the Word that I spake unto you.

[8] Dan. ix. 18. [9] Isa. lv. 6. [10] Ps. cxlv. 18. [11] S. John xiv. 13. [12] 1 S. John v. 14, 15. [13] S. John xv. 16. [14] S. John xv. 20.

Prayer—Prayer the Medicine of the Soul.

O Heavenly Father, Who hast shewn Thy great exceeding love to us, in bidding us to call upon Thee when we have none else to flee unto; when earthly

helps have failed, and proved themselves but miserable comforters; when every worldly idol fails us even in our greatest straight: We call upon Thee in this our day of trouble, praying for the increase of faith and hope and strength to bear the burden Thou hast laid upon us. Grant us perfect trust in Thee, that we may empty and pour out our hearts before Thee, purging them with tears of true repentance, making them prepared and ready for Thy healing grace. If needful, use Thy pruning Hand on us, that we may bring forth fruit unto holiness, and furnish to Thy reapers a worthy harvest of good works. When sorrows come we fly to Thee Who only canst relieve and succour those that mourn; with Whom the faithful fervent prayer availeth much. As Jesus in His Agony three times repeated the same words, so let our cries for mercy oft repeated be to Thee not vain and useless words, but proofs of earnest eager faith, the faith of children who believe, and trust their Father's love and tender care. For Thou alone canst know the things we need before we ask Thee. If at first Thou seemest not to hear, prevent our hearts from fainting in despair, and grant us faith to persevere. Cast out all overcare and anxious fears of what may come, and teach us still to rest submissive to Thy will whatever befall, as knowing that Thou guidest all things for our good. We do confess that we are sinful and unworthy of the

least of all Thy blessings, and we plead no righteousness of ours, but only Thy great mercies and Thy love in Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

VI.

The Lesser Litany.

1. Thou, Lord, shalt save both man and beast, how excellent is Thy mercy, O God: and the children of men shall put their trust under the shadow of Thy wings.

2. The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abundant in goodness and truth: keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.

3. God spake once, and twice I have heard the same, that power belongeth unto God; and that Thou, Lord, art merciful: for Thou rewardest every man according to his work.

4. And when the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her, and said unto her "weep not."

5. We have not an High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that

[1] Ps. xxxvi. 7. [2] Exod. xxxiv. 6, 7. [3] Ps. lxii. 11, 12. [4] S. Luke vii. 13. [5] Heb. iv. 15, 16.

we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

6. The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, Whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

7. The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

8. Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon them that fear Him: and upon them that put their trust in His mercy.

9. Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, Who comforteth us in all our tribulations, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

[6] S. John xiv. 26. [7] Rom. v. 5. [8] Ps. xxxiii. 17. [9] 2 Cor. i. 3, 4.

Prayer—Mercy in the Triune God.

O God the Father, Maker of all men, Who hast compassion on the souls which Thou hast made, have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Who in Thy tenderest love hast paid the penalty of our transgressions, and redeemed our souls, have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, Who makest

holy those who shall inherit Heaven, have mercy upon us.

O Holy and ever-blessed Trinity, Three Persons in One God, Who most delightest to show mercy, hear us when we cry to Thee, for in Thy love we trust. We pray Thee to save us out of all our troubles. Spread the shadow of Thy wings, that underneath we may find a refuge and sure salvation. Merciful and gracious art Thou, though we tremble at the breath of Thy displeasure; bounteous in goodness, though we merit only chastisement and sorrow; bearing long and patiently, albeit we so long have sinned against Thee. Our transgressions overwhelm us, but Thy mercy still exceedeth, cleansing all iniquity and sin, and washing it away, for Jesus sake, in His most precious Blood. Do Thou, O Blessed Lord, the Father of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Father of mercies, God of all comfort, comfort us in all our tribulations. Say unto the sorrowful, "weep not." Send down Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, to teach us all things, the reality of Thy great love, the truth and blessedness of all Thy gracious promises. And so pour into our souls the healing balm of Thy forgiveness, and the certainty of pardon through the all-atoning Blood; and shed abroad in us all peace and joy, the trust of child-like faith, and firm dependence on Thy love and mercy, through the same our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

VII.

The Lord's Prayer, Part I.

1. When ye pray, say, Our Father.

2. Jesus said, I ascend unto My Father and your Father: and to My God and your God.

3. Like as a father pitieth his own children: even so is the Lord merciful unto them that fear Him.

4. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.

5. As many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby ye cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God, and if children then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together.

6. Now we are the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And every man that hath this hope in him, purifieth himself even as He is pure.

[1] S. Luke xi. 2. [2] S. John xx. 17. [3] Ps. ciii. 13. [4] Isa. xlix. 15. [5] Rom. viii. 14-17. [6] 1 S. John iii. 2, 3.

7. I will arise and go to my Father, and will say unto Him, Father, I have sinned against Heaven, and before Thee, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son. . . But when he was yet a great way off, his Father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

8. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you

[7] S. Luke xv. 18-20. [8] 1 Pet. i. 3, 4.

Prayer—The Fatherhood of God.

Almighty Father, Who dwellest in the Heaven of Heavens, unto Whose bright Presence no man may approach, ineffable in holiness and glory; still we dare to call Thee, "Father," yea, "Our Father," inasmuch as Thou art Christ's. We cry to Thee, depending on Thy love, and pray Thee of Thy tenderness and pity guard and help us evermore with Thy right hand, and bid Thy glorious Image to shine within our hearts, that we may ever see and know Thee, and adore. Take from us all unwillingness to have Thee for our Father and our Friend; all sin and hatred that would make

us shun Thy presence, in Whom we live and have our being. Lead us and guide us by Thy Spirit, as becometh sons, for we are Thine. We thank Thee for the grace of Thy adoption in the well-beloved Son. We pray Thee, look on us in Him in Whom Thou art well-pleased. From Thy hand all blessings flow, and we accept with joy the gifts of Thy great bounty; shall we not then welcome also those which seem not blessings: pain and sorrow, and the godly discipline of sickness and affliction? Teach our hearts to bow beneath Thy chastening hand, as knowing that in very love Thou smitest but to heal our souls. We know Thou hast no pleasure in the death of him that dieth but only waitest to be gracious. Touch the hearts of Thy forgetful children; call them back from wandering in the wilful ways of sin, and let Thy goodness lead them to repentance. While they falter in the way afar off, behold them in Thy great compassion. Welcome back the prodigal, and quiet him with Thy kiss of peace and love. O God and Father of our Saviour Jesus Christ, in Thine abundant mercy raise us to a lively hope in Him of that inheritance, unfailing, undefiled, that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for all Thy faithful children, through the same our Lord. Amen.

VIII.

The Lord's Prayer, Part II.

1. Lo, I come to do Thy will, O God.

2. To this end was I born, and for this end came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth.

3. Father, glorify Thy Name. Then came there a voice from Heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.

4. Blessed be the Name of His majesty for ever: and all the earth shall be filled with His majesty.

5. Give glory to the Lord your God, before He cause darkness, and before your feet stumble upon the dark mountains, and while ye look for light, He turn it into the shadow of death, and make it gross darkness.

6. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.

7. We are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained, that we should walk in them.

8. He sent redemption unto His people: He hath commanded His covenant for ever, holy and reverend is His Name.

[1] Heb. x. 7. [2] S. John xviii. 37. [3] S. John xii. 28. [4] Ps. lxxii. 19. [5] Jer. xiii. 16. [6] S. Matt. vi. 33. [7] Eph. ii. 10. [8] Ps. iii. 9.

9. Give the Lord the honour due unto His Name: worship the Lord with holy worship.

10. His Name shall endure for ever, His Name shall remain among the posterities: which shall be blessed through Him, and all the heathen shall praise Him.

11. All men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father: he that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent Him.

12. They rest not day and night, saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

13. Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.

[9] Ps. xxix. 2. [10] Ps. lxxii. 17. [11] S. John v. 23. [12] Rev. iv. 8. [13] Rev. vii. 9.

Prayer—Hallowing the Holy Name.

O God, our Father, and the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; so teach us both in life and death to hallow Thy most Holy Name, as He was pleased to hallow it, thus setting us a pattern how to act upon His own prayer. Teach us, as He did, solemnly to give ourselves to glorify Thy Holy Name. Although His soul was troubled, yet He prayed not,

"save me from this hour," because He knew that for our lives His life must be offered on the Cross unto Thee. For all the pain and shrinking of the flesh, His will was still the servant of Thy will, that all might fall out to Thy glory. So, though it be agony or sorrow, tribulation, bitterness of death, enable us with all our hearts to welcome and embrace the trials Thou mayest send, that we may thus hallow and glorify Thy Name. Help us to seek before all else Thy kingdom and Thy righteousness, and so shall all other things, as Thou hast promised, without fail be added unto us. Permit us not to tire in good beginnings, nor wax weary in our patience, but support us by Thy grace and love, that all our trials may thus further Thine eternal purpose. Thou hast made us parts and members of His Body, make us then to hallow Thy Holy Name as He did. Teach us to give up ourselves, our souls and bodies, to Thy use, to do and suffer all Thy will. In every thought and word and deed so rule and guide us, that the Holy Name in which we were baptized may be kept pure and stainless. Reign within our hearts, and bring them into subjection to that Name which is above all names, the only Name whereby we may be saved, the Name of Jesus Christ, God-Man, our Saviour, Who with Thee, and God the Spirit, three Persons in one God, liveth and reigneth evermore. Amen.

IX.

The Lord's Prayer, Part III.

1. All Thy works praise Thee, O Lord: and Thy saints give thanks unto Thee. They shew the glory of Thy kingdom: and tell of Thy power; that Thy power, Thy glory, and mightiness of Thy kingdom: might be known unto men. Thy kingdom is an everlasting kingdom: and Thy dominion endureth throughout all ages.

2. Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if My kingdom were of this world, then would My servants fight: but now is My kingdom not from hence.

3. Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in Heaven.

4. The kingdom of God is within you.

5. The kingdom of God is not in word but in power.

6. The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down imaginations, and everything that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.

[1] Ps. cxlv. 10-13. [2] S. John xviii. 36. [3] S. Matt. vii. 21. [4] S. Luke xvii. 21. [5] 1 Cor. iv. 20. [6] 2 Cor. x. 4.

7. The kingdom of God is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

8. We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

9. The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

10. Then shall they see the Son of Man coming in the clouds, with power and great glory.

11. The Son of Man shall send forth His angels, and they shall gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.

[7] Rom. xiv. 17. [8] Acts xiv. 22. [9] Rev. xi. 15. [10] S. Mark xiii. 26. [11] S. Matt. xiii. 41.

Prayer—The Heavenly Kingdom.

O Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Who on Thy Cross and Passion founded firmly the kingdom of Thy Church; by Whose most precious Blood that Heaven is purchased which is our inheritance, and by Whose offering upon the Cross we are made members of Thy Body: Establish in our hearts Thy rule of holiness and righteousness, and reign within us as our King for evermore. Give us a larger measure of Thy

Holy Spirit that we may embrace and bear and love Thy Cross, and so become partakers of Thy victory. As Thou didst humble Thyself, and became obedient unto death, so humble us, that we may be exalted like to Thee; As Thou didst overcome the sharpness of death, so raise us up that we may live anew in Thee; and as Thou reignest in Thy Church, and in the hearts of all Thy faithful people, grant that we may ever reign with Thee in Heaven. Make Thy Cross do its work more perfectly in us, that Thou mayest see the travail of Thy Soul and be satisfied, and honoured more by those for whom Thou didst suffer, who yield themselves to be made happy by Thee. Let us not pass on our way to worldly cares or pleasures, refusing to look to Thee or own Thee, Who the while hast each one of us in Thy heart. Make us obey Thy gracious will in being lifted up, to draw all men unto Thee. All day long Thou stretchest forth Thy pierced hands; Oh, draw all men that they may come to Thee, and so have life. Make all the kingdoms of this world Thy kingdom, full of grace and truth, and righteousness and peace. Help us through narrow ways of tribulation still more nearly to approach Thy throne, that when Thou comest in Thy glory, with the hosts of Holy Angels, we may join in the song of triumph, and rejoice to welcome Thee, the King of kings and Lord of lords, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

X.

The Lord's Prayer, Part IV.

1. Jesus said unto them, "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work."

2. In the volume of the Book it is written of Me that I should fulfil Thy will, O My God: I am content to do it; yea, Thy law is within My heart.

3. Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in Heaven.

4. O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me except I drink it, Thy will be done.

5. As the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good-will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men.

6. The world passeth away and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

7. Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad with exceeding joy.

8. What, shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?

[1] S. John iv. 34. [2] Ps. xl. 10. [3] S. Matt. vii. 21. [4] S. Matt. xxvi. 42. [5] Eph. vi. 6, 7. [6] 1 S. John ii. 17. [7] 1 Pet. iv. 12, 13. [8] Job ii. 10.

9. Let them that suffer according to the will of God, commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

10. O praise the Lord, ye angels of His, ye that excel in strength: ye that fulfil His commandments, and hearken unto the voice of His words. O praise the Lord, all ye His hosts, ye servants of His that do His pleasure.

11. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are and were created.

[9] 1 Pet. iv. 19. [10] Ps. ciii. 20, 21. [11] Rev. iv. 11.

Prayer—Angelical Obedience.

O Heavenly Father, Governor and King of Heaven and Earth; in Whom we live and move and have our being; in Whose hand and at Whose will are all things: Grant us true submission, and a ready mind to suffer all Thou layest upon us, and to love the burden which Thou hast put upon us, for it is Thy will that we should bear it. Teach us to wait with lowly, loving and obedient hearts on Thy good pleasure, looking for the good that Thou alone canst bring out of the evil that surrounds us. Raise our minds from these scenes of earth to that blessed Home where all is done according to Thy word. Remind us, when we feel

how blind and sinful and imperfect we are, at our best, how much more dearly Thou dost love all men than any of us love ourselves; and how much better Thou dost know what must be good for us than we ourselves. So bring us to resign our will to Thine. Instruct us in that perfect love which saints and angels know in Heaven. Train us in their order and obedience, each knowing his own place, each serving Thee in perfect holiness. While here around the Cross all seems to be strife and confusion, open to us those ways of peace, where angels carry messages of love and joy unending. While on earth are crowded fears, and pains, and agonies, exalt us to those blessed regions where eternal gladness reigns. Reveal to us how, in the midst of suffering and sorrow, Thy will may be done, so that the very Cross may thus become to us a crown of bliss. Enable us in all things to commit the keeping of our souls to Thee, rejoicing to partake of the sufferings of Christ, in hope of glory through His Name. Amen.

XI.

The Lord's Prayer, Part V.

1. Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what

[1] S. Matt. vi. 25, 26.

ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

2. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

3. Remove far from me vanity and lies; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with food convenient for me: lest I be full, and deny Thee, and say, who is the Lord? or lest I be poor and steal, and take the name of my God in vain.

4. Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for the meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of Man shall give unto you.

5. My Father giveth you the true Bread from Heaven. For the Bread of God is He which came down from Heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

6. Jesus said unto them, I am the Bread of Life: he that cometh unto Me shall never hunger: and he that believeth on Me shall never thirst.

7. Except ye eat the Flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth My Flesh, and drinketh My Blood, hath eternal

[2] S. Matt. vi. 33. [3] Prov. xxx. 8, 9. [4] S. John vi. 27. [5] S John vi. 32. [6] Ibid 35. [7] Ibid 53, 56.

life; and I will raise him up at the last day. He that eateth My Flesh, and drinketh My Blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him.

Prayer—The Daily Bread.

Almighty Father, Who preparest rain, and makest grass to grow upon the mountains, giving to the beast his food, and caring for the lives of men: Relieve our minds from over-anxiousness about the things of this life. When our strength is failing, and disease and sickness take away our wonted vigour; when the brain is dull, the whole heart faint, and we can no more labour for our daily bread, direct our trust to Thy right hand, and make us perceive in sorrow and affliction signs to lead us unto Thee. Increase our faith, that we may never come to be discouraged or cast down, but place our confidence in Thine Almighty power, and the infinite resources of Thy love. Conduct our thoughts to better things than health or food, long life or riches. Fix our hearts upon those more lasting blessings of Thy kingdom, and Thy righteousness. Make it our meat to do Thy will, while Thou art providing food convenient for us. Give us neither poverty nor riches, but a faithful, loving, understanding heart. And howsoever Thou shalt deal with us in this life, make us strive above all for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life; the Bread that cometh

down from Heaven, which the Son of Man shall give unto us. Feed our empty, hungry souls with that which only can sustain their daily life, without which they must fall away from Thee and die. So make our bodies clean by His pure Body. Wash our souls in His most precious Blood, that we may dwell in Him, and He in us for evermore. Hear these our prayers for His Name's sake. Amen.

XII.

The Lord's Prayer, Part VI.

1. I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

2. I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy sins: return unto Me; for I have redeemed thee.

3. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

4. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

5. Who is a God like unto Thee, Who pardoneth

[1] Isa. xliii. 25. [2] Isa. xliv. 22. [3] 1 S. John i. 9. [4] Isa. lv. 7. [5] Micah vii. 18, 19.

iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities, and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depth of the sea.

6. If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it? For there is mercy with Thee: therefore shalt Thou be feared.

7. Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus said unto him, I say not unto thee till seven times, but until seventy times seven.

8. Forgive, and ye shall be forgiven.

9. When ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any: that your Father also which is in Heaven may forgive your trespasses.

10. Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you.

11. Mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

[6] Ps. cxxx. 3, 4. [7] S. Matt. xviii. 21, 22. [8] S. Luke vi. 37. [9] S. Mark xi. 25. [10] Eph. iv. 32. [11] Jas. ii. 13.

Prayer—Conditions of Forgiveness.

O God, our Heavenly Father, Who dost call us from the busy world, that we may hear Thy still small

voice, and heed Thy warnings: Teach us in this school of sickness and affliction how to make our peace with Thee, before Thou callest us hence. Arouse our sleeping conscience; set our sins before Thy face, and while we seek Thy mercy, teach us mercy also to our fellow-sinners. Keep us from the sin of judging others with severity, while praying Thee to spare Thy judgments. Hear the sighings of our hearts, as we do hear the sighings of the poor around us. Listen to our supplications, as we listen to the pleadings of our brethren who may have justly roused our anger, or it may be foully wronged us: or if we have wronged another shew us how to make amends and be at peace. We know that not all the injuries of all mankind committed against us can equal that weight of ingratitude which we have repaid to Thee. For Thou hast poured Thy benefits upon us, and in return we have scorned Thy love, and wasted Thy good gifts. Oh, deal not with us as we have deserved, but while Thou dost pardon us, fill us also with pardon; while Thou dost pity, fill us with pity; while Thou lovest, fill us with Thy love. Thus may it please Thee to make us very members of Thy Christ. Lift up our eyes to the Cross, and while we look, impress upon our hearts that lesson of His love; and make us put away all unforgiving, scornful, and revengeful thoughts. So make us ready for admission

to that Paradise where Thou Who gave, and those who have forgiveness, shall be blest for evermore, with Him, the Fountain of all Pardon, Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

XIII.

The Lord's Prayer, Part VII.

1. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation.

2. The Lord is faithful, Who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.

3. Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

4. Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation.

5. Because thou hast kept the word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

6. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will, with the temptation, also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

7. Why sleep ye? Rise and pray that ye enter not into temptation.

[1] 2 Pet. ii. 9. [2] 2 Thes. iii. 3. [3] S. Luke xxii. 40. [4] S. Matt. xxvi. 41. [5] Rev. iii. 10. [6] 1 Cor. x. 13. [7] S. Luke xxii. 46.

8. Oh! that Thou wouldest bless me indeed . . and that Thine hand might be with me, and that Thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me.

9. The Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto His Heavenly Kingdom, to Whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

10. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer . . Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches; he that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

11. Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: And when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

12. If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous.

[8] 1 Chron. iv. 10. [9] 2 Tim. iv. 18. [10] Rev. ii. 10, 11. [11] S. Luke xxii. 31, 32. [12] 1 John ii. 1.

Prayer—Deliverance from the Evil.

O Lord of Heaven, Faithful and True, deliver us Thy servants from the evils that surround us. Keep us in the hour of trial; and suffer not our strength to be overwhelmed, but make a way for our escape, or hold us up by Thine Almighty arm, that we may bear the strain that so sorely tries us. Grant us grace to

bear whatever Thou shalt lay upon us, be it pain or sickness, sorrow or distress. O Blessed Jesus, Who by that last cry of Thine upon the Cross didst claim the victory over evil and temptation, overcome for us, who still suffer temptations of the world, the devil, and the flesh, all evil that would drive us from Thy Cross. Instead of pain, give us joy; for thirst, full satisfaction; victory for agony; for darkness, light. Instead of strife and constant warfare with the enemies of our salvation, trials and afflictions of the body, grant us peace, the rest of Paradise, the triumph of victorious souls. Dispel the deep gross darkness of this world of sin; and shine upon us, that we may rejoice to see Thy day. As Thou didst not ascend to joy without first having suffered pain, nor enter on Thy glory but by the way of Calvary, so teach us that our way to joy eternal is to suffer here with Thee; our door to life, gladly to die with Thee. The more hardly our pain and weariness press on us here, the more, O Lord, present unto our minds that rest which Thou hast prepared for us beneath the shadow of Thy Cross. The more temptations surge against us, the more do Thou guard and keep our souls, and set Thy watch of angels round us. Let not sin prevail nor evil triumph, but confirm in us the sure and certain hope of everlasting life, through Thy most precious Blood. Amen.

XIV.

The Lord's Prayer, Part VIII.

1. The Lord is my strength and my song, and He is become my salvation.

2. Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

3. The Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible.

4. [1] O give thanks unto the God of all gods: for His mercy endureth for ever. [2] O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is gracious: and His mercy endureth for ever.

5. Now is come salvation and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ.

6. Desire of Me and I shall give you the heathen for thine inheritance, and the utmost parts of the earth for Thy possession.

7. And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole Heaven, shall be given unto the people of the saints of the Most High, Whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.

8. Blessed are they which do His commandments,

[1] Exod. xv. 2. [2] Ibid 11. [3] Deut. x. 17. [4] Ps. cxxxvi. 1, 2. [5] Rev. xii. 10. [6] Ps. ii. 10. [7] Dan. vii. 27. [8] Rev. xxii. 14.

that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

9. He hath on His vesture and on His thigh a Name written, King of kings, and Lord of lords.

10. Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulders: and His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom to order it, and to establish it with judgment, and with justice from henceforth even for ever.

[9] Rev. xix. 16. [10] Isa. ix. 6, 7.

Prayer—The Kingdom, and Power, and Glory of God.

Almighty God, Most High in Heaven and Earth, our Father and our King; Whose ways are not as our ways, nor Thy thoughts as our thoughts; Governor supreme; Disposer of all men and things; in Whom we live and move and have our being: We beseech Thee, hold our souls in life, and be our Guide even unto death. Preserve our going out and coming in. Be with us, and keep us in all places whither we may go. Thou only makest us to dwell in safety. Make us to serve Thee, trusting in Thy majesty, with cheerful and willing hearts, and give us grace, depending on

Thy power, to hold Thy hand in confidence, assured that nought can harm us while we cling to Thee. Be Thou our Lord and Ruler. Grant us faithful hearts and humble minds, that we may walk in Thy commandments, loving all Thy laws, submitting to Thy voice, and always ready to obey Thy word. We thank Thee that to us Thou hast revealed the glories of Thy kingdom in Thy Son our Lord. We pray Thee, keep us in this faith, that we may so live here, as true and earnest members of Thy Church; that we may keep our title clear to the inheritance which He hath won for us, and prove our right unto the tree of life. So grant us entrance for His sake into Thy Holy Hill, that we may come with clean hands and pure hearts unto Thy gates of righteousness; where in Thy presence, and at Thy right hand, we shall find pleasures for evermore. Thus bring us to behold Thy glory, and the glory of the Lamb, with Thee and all Thy saints, through Him, our Saviour Christ, Who with Thee, and the Holy Spirit reigneth evermore. Amen.

XV.

The Versicles, Part I.

1. Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and hear me: for I am poor and in misery. Preserve Thou my soul for

[1] Ps. lxxxvi. 1, 2.

I am holy: My God, save Thy servant that putteth his trust in Thee.

2. But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the Name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

3. You hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.

4. We ourselves also were sometime foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But after that the love and kindness of God our Saviour toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we had done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; that being justified by His grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

5. He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

6. We must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

[2] 1 Cor. vi. 11. [3] Eph. ii. 1, 2. [4] Tit. iii. 3-7. [5] Heb. v. 8. [6] Acts xiv. 22.

7. It is a faithful saying . . "If we suffer, we also shall reign with Him."

8. If children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together.

9. Whoso putteth his trust in the Lord, mercy embraceth him on every side.

[7] 2 Tim. ii. 11, 12. [8] Rom. viii. 17. [9] Ps. xxii. 11.

Prayer—Safety to those who trust.

O Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Who as our High Priest dost pray for us; and Who as the Head of this Thy Church and Body prayest in us, unto Whom as God we pray; Bow down Thine ear and hear us, who confess our sins, and need Thy mercy. Kind Physician, bend across this earthly bed of suffering whereon Thy servant lieth, too feeble in himself to raise himself, too weak from sin to cry aloud in perfect faith. But all the more, the nearer he approaches Thy holiness, he lies exposed to all the desperate assaults of him who watches to destroy our souls. No holiness have we but what is Thine, Thou Holy Son of God, in Whom was found no fault at all; and yet we thank Thee for that grace wherein we have been washed and sanctified as vessels for Thy use. Preserve us therefore lest the adversary triumph over us. Increase our trust in Thee, and save Thy servants, for

in truth we are Thine own. In sorrow and in tribulation teach us to look up in perfect faith, as knowing that this present chastening is but a token of our Heavenly Father's love, Who scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. Thus, however many troubles come about us, great and heavy though the trials and afflictions are which surround us, make us still remember that Thou indeed deliverest out of all. And when the waves of tribulation threaten to engulf us, fix our hopes on that fair haven whither Thou hast gone before; that blessed place of rest and peace, where sorrow never comes, where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest. In this sure hope enable us to persevere unto the end, for Thy great mercy's sake, O Lord. Amen.

XVI.

The Versicles, Part II.

1. The Lord hear thee in the day of trouble: the Name of the God of Jacob defend thee. Send thee help from the sanctuary: and strengthen thee out of Zion.

2. Help us, O God of our salvation: and deliver us.

3. Call upon Me in the time of trouble: so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise Me.

[1] Ps. xx. 1, 2. [2] Ps. lxxix. 9. [3] Ps. l. 15.

4. Because he hath set his love upon Me, therefore will I deliver him : I will set him up because he hath known My Name. He shall call upon Me and I will hear him : yea, I am with him in trouble ; I will deliver him, and bring him to honour. With long life will I satisfy him : and shew him My salvation.

5. Though I walk in the midst of trouble, yet shalt Thou refresh me : Thou shalt stretch forth Thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies, and Thy right hand shall save me. The Lord shall make good His lovingkindness toward me : yea, Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever ; despise not then the works of Thine own hands.

6. The salvation of the righteous cometh of the Lord : Who is also their strength in the time of trouble. And the Lord shall stand by them and save them : He shall deliver them from the ungodly, and shall save them, because they put their trust in Him.

7. Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared.

8. The Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, long-suffering and abundant in goodness and in truth.

[4] Ps. xci. 14-16. [5] Ps. cxxxviii. 7, 8. [6] Ps. xxxvii. 40, 41. [7] Heb. v. 7. [8] Exod. xxxiv. 6.

Prayer—Help and Defence in the Most High.

Almighty Father, Who, when trouble came upon Thy Son, our Lord, when all around was darkness and dismay, in the hour of His most bitter Cross, didst hear Him when He cried to Thee in His extremity: So hear the prayers of us Thy children, when afflictions press us sore. As Thy help did not fail Him in the hour of darkness, for He was not severed far from Thee even in the depth of His humiliation, let it not fail us, unworthy though we be, who also cry to Thee in our distress. We look around for some to have pity, but in vain, for human friends however near and dear can offer no remedy, and worldly comforts can bring no balm, but only from Thy Sanctuary comes the strength to make us triumph in this deadly warfare. Send us therefore strength and succour out of Zion, and so shall we rejoice amidst our troubles, and give thanks to Thee. O help us, God of our salvation, and deliver us, for of Thee cometh our salvation. Stand by us and save us, as Thou didst by Stephen, first of martyrs. Raise our eyes that we may stedfastly look up to Heaven, and see Thy glory, and the glorified Redeemer in the place of power at Thy right hand. Reveal to us the pitying face of Jesus, once so marred and shamefully disfigured, now rejoicing in His perfect love and beauty, where He reigns in eternal felicity.

So shall no terrors of tribulation have power to daunt, nor any woes prevail to frighten us from that blessed sight and hope. Let all these lonely hours tend but to bring us to that blessedness which was won by our High Priest, through tears and darkness, even Jesus Christ. Amen.

XVII.

The Versicles, Part III.

1. And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not.

2. Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: whom resist stedfast in the faith.

3. Take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be over-charged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. Watch therefore and pray always.

4. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

5. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

6. All that will live godly in Christ Jesus, shall suffer persecution.

[1] S. Luke xxii. 31, 32. [2] 1 Pet. v. 8, 9. [3] S. Luke xxi. 34, 36. [4] Jas. iv. 7. [5] Eph. vi. 11. [6] 2 Tim. iii. 12.

7. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Let us therefore put off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

8. Lest Satan should get an advantage of us, for we are not ignorant of his devices.

9. The world hateth them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

10. No man should be moved by these afflictions: for yourselves know that ye are appointed thereto.

11. I will shew him how great things he must suffer for My Name's sake.

12. The Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me. But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the great God.

[7] Rom. xiii. 12. [8] 2 Cor. xi. 11. [9] S. John xvii. 14. [10] 1 Thes. iii. 3. [11] Acts ix. 16. [12] Acts xx. 23, 24.

Prayer—Support against the Enemy.

Almighty God, by Whose divine disposal we are placed in this world, subject to attacks on every side from our soul's enemies: We pray Thee, suffer not that we should be beguiled in false security when deadly foes are around us who never weary. Many are the weapons brought against us, wealth and poverty,

afflictions hard to bear and unsuspecting ease, more dangerous still; yet let us not lose heart at all the terrible array, because we know that Thou art mightier, more able to protect us than the foe is to ruin. When it seems that all we have to suffer must overwhelm our faith, disperse the gathering clouds by Thy Holy Spirit of faith and love, and strengthen us with Thine Almighty power. If we fall not, teach us to ascribe our safety to His favour, Who once prayed for His disciples, and Who now prays for us, that our faith fail not. Let no weight of care or sorrow, pain or sickness, so prevail upon us, as to cast away our faith, and force us to deny our Lord. O Thou, Who art most wise and powerful and tender, grant to us a share in that most loving prayer of Jesus, lest we be cast away, and taken in the snares of Satan. Keep us on our guard, by day and night, in health and sickness, lest he gain upon us unawares. Prepare us, as Thou didst prepare S. Paul, with confidence and boldness to meet troubles, even when they thicken most around us. Teach us to value life, so poor and cheap a thing itself, as precious chiefly for that it can be united to the life of Jesus, and through His incarnation enter into glory. Hear us for His sake, our Saviour, Whom with Thee, and God the Holy Ghost, we worship and adore. Amen.

XVIII.

The Versicles, Part IV.

1. O set me up upon the Rock that is higher than I, for Thou hast been my Hope, and a strong Tower against the enemy. I will dwell in Thy tabernacle for ever: and my trust shall be under the covering of Thy wings.

2. The Name of the Lord is a strong Tower: the righteous runneth into it and is safe.

3. David said, moreover, The Lord that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, He will deliver me out of the hand of the Philistines.

4. Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that He will deliver.

5. I am well pleased that the Lord hath heard the voice of my prayer; that He hath inclined His ear unto me: therefore will I call upon Him as long as I live.

6. No man stood with me, but all men forsook me. Notwithstanding the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me; And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto the Heavenly kingdom.

[1] Ps. lxi. 3, 4. [2] Prov. xviii. 10. [3] 1 Sam. xvii. 37. [4] 2 Cor. i. 10. [5] Ps. cxvi. 1, 2. [6] 2 Tim. iv. 16, 18.

7. The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.

8. Great are the troubles of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of all. He keepeth all his bones: so that not one of them is broken. The Lord delivereth the souls of His servants: and all they that put their trust in Him shall not be destitute.

9. Draw nigh unto my soul and save it. O deliver me, because of mine enemies.

10. Because thou hast kept the word of My patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

[7] 2 Pet. ii. 9. [8] Ps. xxxiv. 19-22. [9] Ps. lxix. 19. [10] Rev. iii. 10.

Prayer—Our Rock and Tower.

O God, Who hast set up that most high Rock, the Rock of Ages, for the hope and stronghold of Thy Church; the Headstone on which Jacob rested, when he dreamed a dream of Heaven; the Rock in which Thou didst hide Moses, when he was permitted to behold Thy majesty; that stricken Rock, which gave forth saving waters: Bind our hopes to Him, Who suffered, being tempted, died, and rose again for us, our Saviour Jesus. Leave us not, for whom Thou didst send Thy beloved Son to do and suffer all for us

Forsake not those whom He so dearly won. Shew unto us in Him our labour and reward: our labour in His sufferings: our reward in His resurrection. When the snares of death encompass us about, and pains of hell get hold upon us; when we walk unwarily, and wander in the perilous byways of temptation, seek us out, and draw us back to ways of safety. In the world we can find no shelter, for prosperity brings only presumption, and adversity despair; be Thou our shelter and defence against our enemies. Our troubles, our afflictions, turn into a godly sorrow, in which we may call humbly on Thy Name. Permit not our temptations or our trials to be more than we are able to withstand, but with the temptation send us the grace to bear it. Make us ever conscious of Thy present love and power. Be to us an ever ready Friend, although unseen by men. Deliver us from evil, from the tempter, from the pressure of a pain or care too great. We ask Thee not for perfect rest, or perfect peace, but rather for Thy grace to bring us safely through our pilgrimage. So guide us in the darkness with the light of Jesus' Cross, that after but a few more painful footsteps we may be in light and joy for ever, for His blessed sake. Amen.

XIX.

The Versicles, Part V.

1. Hear my prayer, O God: and hide not Thyself from my petition. Take heed unto me, and hear me: how I mourn in my prayer and am vexed.

2. Hear my crying, O God: give ear unto my prayer. From the ends of the earth will I call upon Thee: when my heart is in heaviness.

3. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous: and His ears are open unto their prayers.

4. The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him.

5. And it came to pass in those days, that He went into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

6. Is any among you afflicted? let him pray.

7. Call upon Me in the time of trouble: so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise Me.

8. I will call upon the Lord, which is worthy to be praised: so shall I be safe from mine enemies. In my trouble I will call upon the Lord: and complain unto my God. So shall He hear my voice out of His holy temple: and my complaint shall come before Him, it shall enter into His ears.

[1] Ps. lv. 1, 2. [2] Ps. lxi. 1, 2. [3] 1 Pet. iii. 12. [4] 2 Chron. xvi. 9. [5] S. Luke vi. 12. [6] Jas. v. 13. [7] Ps. l. 15. [8] Ps. xviii. 2, 6.

9. I cried unto the Lord with my voice: yea, even unto the Lord did I make my supplication. I poured out my complaint before Him: and shewed Him of my trouble. I had no place to flee unto: and no man cared for my soul. I cried unto Thee, O Lord, and said: Thou art my hope and my portion in the land of the living.

10. I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands.

11. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you: cleanse your hands ye sinners: and purify your hearts, ye double-minded.

[9] Ps. cxlii. 1, 6. [10] 1 Tim. xi. 8. [11] Jas. iv. 8.

Prayer—God the Hearer of Prayer.

O Thou that hearest Prayer, our merciful and loving Father, give to us the spirit of true supplication, that we may pray acceptably. Permit no cloud of gloomy sorrow to obscure our souls when pains and troubles come about us. Hide not from our sight Thy smiles of love and mercy, when afflictions lower around us, threatening to overwhelm, and when we, by reason of infirmity and frailness seem to lose sight of Thee. Bow down Thine ear and hear. Take heed to our petition. Pierce the clouds of doubt and little faith, and shine upon us in the radiance of Thy love. We know that Thou ordainest troubles for Thy people, not to hurt

or harass, but that we, like righteous Job, may bless Thy Holy Name from out of the very midst of tribulation. So, we pray Thee, turn the heaviness that in this night of sorrow weighs us down, into the joy that cometh in the morning, on the beams of Thy great mercy. Let no evil or selfish fancies rise up to mar our prayers, or any discontent or unsubmission render us unable to lift our hands or hearts to Thee. But purify our hearts, and cleanse our souls, that we may lift up holy hands, approaching Thee in true repentance, and forgiving as we hope to be forgiven. From all the corners of the earth the voice of supplication rises. Many voices cry, for many are the woes that here beset Thy children; but the cry is as the Voice of One, for in one Christ our Advocate, we come to Thee, when our heart is in heaviness. As Thou didst hear Thy Christ Who prayed for His disciples, hear Him when in His own Name He pleads our cause at Thy right hand, for that same Jesu's sake, Who reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

XX.

The First Collect, Part I.

1. Thus saith the high and lofty One, that inhabiteth eternity, Whose Name is Holy, I dwell in the high and

[1] Isa. lvii. 15.

holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

2. Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath His dwelling so high: and yet humbleth Himself to behold the things that are in Heaven and earth?

3. Lord God of Israel, there is no God like Thee, in Heaven above or on the earth beneath, Who keepest covenant and mercy with Thy servants that walk before Thee with all their heart.

4. O Lord God of Israel, which dwellest between the Cherubims, Thou art the God. even Thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; Thou hast made Heaven and earth. Lord, bow down Thine ear, and hear: Open, Lord, Thine eyes and see.

5. Hear Thou in Heaven, Thy dwelling-place, and when Thou hearest forgive.

6. Whom have I in Heaven but Thee: and there is none upon earth that I desire in comparison of Thee. My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.

7. Turn Thee again, Thou God of hosts, look down from Heaven: behold, and visit this vine.

8. Look down from Heaven, and behold from the habitation of Thy holiness and of Thy glory.

[2] Ps. cxiii. 5. [3] 1 Kings viii. 23. [4] 2 Kings xix. 15, 16. [5] 1 Kings viii. 30. [6] Ps. lxxiii. 24. [7] Ps. lxxx. 14. [8] Isa. lxiii. 15.

9. Remember me, O Lord, according to the favour that thou bearest unto Thy people: O visit me with Thy salvation.

10. My soul hath longed for Thy salvation: and I have a good hope because of Thy word. Mine eyes long sore for Thy word: saying, O when wilt Thou comfort me?

11. Unto Thee lift I up mine eyes: O Thou that dwellest in the Heavens.

[9] Ps. cvi. 4. [10] Ps. cxix. 81, 82. [11] Ps. cxxiii. 1.

Prayer—The Lord Beholdeth.

O Thou Blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, Who dwellest in the light that no man can approach unto; Who hast Thy dwelling place so high, and yet beholdest things that are in Heaven and earth: Look down, we pray Thee, on Thy suffering children, whom afflictions sorely oppress. Do Thou, Who never slumberest nor sleepest, watch and guard Thy servants. Let no evil have the power to drive us away from Thee. Visit us with Thy salvation. Take not from us Thy protection. Let Thy countenance beam with favour upon us. As Thou didst deliver Noah from the deluge, Lot from the storm of fire, and Joseph from the pit and prison, so deliver us from these opposing troubles. Save us from these pains and sorrows, that would drive us to

despair, as Thou didst rescue David from the hands of Saul; the children of Thy people from the burning, fiery furnace; Daniel from the lion's den; Peter from prison, and S. Paul from shipwreck: So relieve Thy servants, Lord, and so deliver us from all our troubles. High above all stations Thou hast raised Thy Son, our Advocate and Intercessor, Jesus Christ; O, hear Him as He pleads at Thy right hand, for us His brethren. Raise us from this depth of woe and sorrow to the calm and peaceful heights where Jesus reigns. Relieve us, burdened with this load of sin, and suffering for sin, and lift us up by Thy free Spirit to the regions of eternal hope and holy gladness. Shed upon these parched and weary hearts the gracious dews of Heaven, and quicken them to a fruitful life, that we may render unto Thee the trust and confidence of loving and obedient children, through the same, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

XXI.

The First Collect, Part II.

1. Shew Thy servant the light of Thy countenance: and save me for Thy mercy's sake.

2. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayer.

[1] Ps. xxxi. 18. [2] 1 Pet. iii. 12.

3. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: long-suffering, and of great goodness. He will not alway be chiding: neither keepeth He His anger for ever.

4. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right: and that Thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled. O let Thy merciful kindness be my comfort: according to Thy word unto Thy servant. O let Thy loving mercies come unto me, that I may live: for Thy law is my delight. Mine eyes long sore for Thy word: saying, O when wilt Thou comfort me.

5. Turn Thee again, O Lord, at the last: and be gracious unto Thy servant. O satisfy us with Thy mercy, and that soon: so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life. Comfort us again now after the time that Thou hast plagued us: and for the years wherein we have suffered adversity.

6. I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comfort to him and to his mourners.

7. Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

8. In the fear of the Lord is my strong confidence.

9. My soul truly waiteth still upon God: for of Him cometh my salvation. He verily is my strength and my salvation: so that I shall not greatly fall.

[3] Ps. ciii. 8, 9. [4] Ps. cxix. 75-82. [5] Ps. xc. 13-15. [6] Isa. lvii. 18. [7] S. Matt. v. 4. [8] Prov. xiv. 26. [9] Ps. lxii. 1, 2.

10. Hear me, O Lord, for Thy lovingkindness is comfortable: turn Thee unto me according to the multitude of Thy mercies.

11. If our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

[10] Ps. lxix. 17. [11] 1 John iii. 21.

Prayer—Mercy and Comfort in God.

Almighty God, Whose eyes are on the ways of men; behold, we pray Thee, with Thy loving mercy, all Thy servants in their sorrows and afflictions. When our hearts are failing us amidst these tribulations, and wondering from whence relief shall come, prevent us with Thy grace that we may not put our trust in man, or make mere flesh our stay, but find in Thee our Hope and Strength. For Thou, O Lord, dost never fail. Our times are in Thy hand. Though now we wander in the wilderness, and stray aside in tangled ways like sheep that are lost, yet we know that Thou hast promised even here to nourish us, and lead us safely till we end our pilgrimage. Enable us to hold Thy hand in perfect trust; and cheer our trembling yet believing souls with more and more of faith. Refresh our weary souls, that faint amidst so many sorrows, with Thy Comfort from on high; and make us feel and know Thy full Compassion, Who so lovest us in Thy dear Son. Not always wilt Thou chide and

chasten; nor in anger, but in very faithfulness Thou visitest Thy people. Shew us how Thy hand is leading us by blessings, drawing us by chastenings, away from worldly hopes and aims, to rest in Thee. Incline us more and more to follow and obey Thy voice, which calls in every way, and warns on every side, by scourges of correction, as by mercies often vouchsafed. O grant us Comfort, and sure confidence in Thee. Make us remember, when affliction presses very sore, and Thy hand seems heavy and severe, that Thou art still our loving Father, knowing best, and doing best. And let us not deplore so much the weight of sorrow, but consider how it worketh out a more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

XXII.

The First Collect, Part III.

1. Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

2. Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy. The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord, and put his trust in Him: and all they that are true of heart shall be glad.

[1] 1 Pet. v. 8. [2] Ps. lxiv. 1, 10.

3. Deliver me from mine enemies, O God: defend me from them that rise up against me.

4. Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee.

5. The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

6. Take away Thy rebuke that I am afraid of: for Thy judgments are good.

7. Whoso dwelleth under the defence of the Most High: shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say unto the Lord, Thou art my Hope, and my Stronghold: my God, in Him will I trust.

8. Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in My Name, He will give it you.

9. He is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.

10. All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me, I will in no wise cast out. And this is the Father's will which hath sent Me, that of all which He hath given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

11 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea, rather, that is risen again, Who is even at

[3] Ps lix. 1. [4] Isa. xxvi. 3. [5] Phil. iv. 7. [6] Ps. cxix. 39. [7] Ps. xci. 1, 2. [8] S. John xvi. 23. [9] Heb. vii. 25. [10] S. John vi. 37-39. [11] Rom. viii. 34.

the right hand of God, Who also maketh intercession for us.

12. Because I live, ye shall live also.

[12] S. John xiv. 19.

Prayer—Defence and Safety in the Lord.

O Lord, our Guardian and Defender, keep our minds awake, and conscious how the enemy is very near, and anxious for our downfall. Make us feel our constant liability to fall, and how, without Thy grace, we may be castaways. While the enemy of our salvation watches for our souls, and strong and fierce and cunning tries to turn all things to our souls' harm, afflictions, trials, troubles; do Thou turn them to our good. We know that Christ has overcome the Tempter; by His grace and help make us to triumph also. Hear His voice of Intercession, and preserve us from the enemy that He hath conquered. Under all discouragements of sickness, sorrow, or distress, enable us to put our trust in Thee; in joy or sorrow calling still upon Thee; honouring Thy Holy Name and Word, and labouring to serve Thee truly all our days. Uphold us in our tribulations. Strengthen us in patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; that we may thank Thee, Who hast made us meet to bepartakers in the promised inheritance of the saints of light. Deliver us from all the powers of darkness, and translate us to the king-

dom of Thy dear Son. As those who shared Christ's sorrows shared alike His joy when He returned from the grave, so make us here to face our troubles patiently, that in the end we may partake of His gladness. Teach us to submit our will to Thy will, asking only what Thou wouldest have us ask, that we may have the answer to our prayers, for His Name's sake. Remind us, when we feel inclined to murmur at Thy dealings, that Thou hast not placed us here to please ourselves, but Thee. Sustain us in Thy hand, that we may not be lost, but be raised up at last to joy and glory everlasting, for His sake. Amen.

XXIII.

The Second Collect, Part I.

1. Hast thou not known? Hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? There is no searching of His understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall. But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as

[1] Isa. xl. 28-31.

eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2. O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!

3. O keep my soul, and deliver me: let me not be confounded, for I have put my trust in Thee.

4. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

5. Enter into the rock, and hide thee in the dust, for fear of the Lord, and for the glory of His majesty.

6. God is a righteous Judge, strong and patient: and God is provoked every day.

7. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth: unto such as keep His covenant, and His testimonies. For Thy Name's sake, O Lord: be merciful to my sin, for it is great.

8. Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the Cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

9. Thy mercy, O Lord, reacheth unto the Heavens: and Thy faithfulness unto the clouds.

10. He shall call upon Me, and I will hear him:

[2] Rom. xi. 33. [3] Ps. xxv. 19. [4] Ps. xxvii. 1. [5] Isa. xi. 10. [6] Ps. vii. 12. [7] Ps. xxv. 9, 10. [8] Heb. xii. 21. [9] Ps. xxxvi. 5. [10] Ps. xci. 15.

yea, I am with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and bring him to honour.

Prayer—The Power and Mercy of God.

O God Almighty, everlasting Lord, Who madest, and Who rulest all things by Thy power: We appeal to Thee, for Thou alone canst help. Stretch forth Thine arm, that never wearies. Give to us who faint in dire affliction, strength to bear up under the many trials that oppress us, lest we utterly fall. We know not, as Thou knowest, why these things should come upon us; but we put our trust in Thee, Whose wisdom and power is over all. Take away from us all dread and fear, and raise our despairing eyes to look up to Thee our strong Deliverer. Bend upon us Thine eye of mercy. Snatch us from the fowler's net. Enable us to suffer to the end, according to Thy will, in perfect faith and hope. Thus shalt Thou rescue us from all our troubles; and walking in Thy light we shall be safe; upheld by Thee our footsteps shall not stumble; guarded by Thy love we will not fear. Strength of our life, with Thine arm to support us, of whom shall we be afraid? Thy power we know is infinite, as is Thy justice, but Thy mercy reigneth over all; in that we put our trust; on that we fix our hopes: that mercy which did come to us in Jesus Christ, Who came on earth to suffer and to die for our salvation. When

our hearts are filled with mourning and dismay at the thought of all the sins whereby we have displeased Thee, the righteous God, we pray Thee guide our minds to Him Who sustained upon the Cross Thy wrath for us, that we might find in Thee a reconciled and forgiving Father. Lead us henceforth in paths of holiness and truth; and bring us safe, in Thy good time, to Thine eternal rest, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

XXIV.

The Second Collect, Part II.

1. O look Thou upon me, and be merciful unto me: as Thou usest to do unto those that love Thy Name.

2. Remember me, O Lord, according unto the favour that Thou bearest unto Thy people: O visit me with Thy salvation.

3. I cried unto Thee, O Lord, and said: Thou art my Hope and my Portion in the land of the living. Bring my soul out of prison, that I may give thanks unto Thy Name: which thing if Thou wilt grant me, then shall the righteous resort unto my company.

4. The snares of death encompassed me round about: and the pains of hell gat hold upon me. I

[1] Ps. cix. 32. [2] Ps. cvi. 4. [3] Ps. cxlii. 6, 9. [4] Ps. cxvi. 3, 4.

shall find trouble and heaviness, and I will call upon the Name of the Lord: O Lord, I beseech Thee, deliver my soul.

5. O Lord, I am oppressed, undertake for me.

6. I will not refrain my mouth; I will speak in the anguish of my spirit; I will complain in the bitterness of my soul.

7. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength.

8. These words spake Jesus, and lifted up His eyes to Heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come.

9. My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

10. Hezekiah was sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah said unto him, thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die and not live. Then he prayed unto the Lord; and Hezekiah wept sore.

11. In the multitude of the sorrows that I had in my heart: Thy comforts have refreshed my soul.

[5] Isa. xxxviii. 14. [6] Job. vii. 11. [7] Isa. xl. 29. [8] S. John xvii. 1. [9] 2 Cor. xii. 9, 10. [10] 2 Kings xx. 2, 3. [11] Ps. xciv. 19.

Prayer—The Goodness of God to the Afflicted.

O Lord God, abundant in goodness and truth, long-suffering, compassionate, and merciful; We pray Thee look with Thy accustomed goodness on Thy servants who are grieved with sickness. Thou knowest we are weak and helpless, frail of purpose, and prone to fall beneath the trials of this mortal life; increase our strength; confirm our faith; and help us in the strife, that we may not fall away from Thee, but rise above these troubles, strong to do and suffer in the Name of Christ. The daily load of pains, temptations, sorrows, weary and depress our souls; but though we be afflicted and sore beset on every side, in Thee may we place our hope and trust. Though many comforts fail us, yet not all, O Lord. And though we be cast down, Thou wilt not suffer us to be destroyed. Though our outward man decay and perish, still renew our inward man from day to day. Grant us the happiness reserved for all Thy chosen, even to see in Christ our only Saviour: so to see Him now by faith, as we hope to see Himself hereafter with our very eyes: to know Him now to be our wisdom, righteousness, redemption, even as we are known by Him. Give unto us the joy of knowing that we are Thy people, so that we may give to Thee continual thanks through Jesus Christ, submitting ourselves wholly to Thy will and

pleasure; studying to serve Thee, even in the midst of pain and sickness, with true holiness and righteousness throughout our days. Forgive the many duties we have left undone, the works unfinished which Thou gavest us to do. Pardon our ill-service, for the sake of Him Who in this life did all Thy will, and glorified Thy Name on earth. Accept us, Lord, in Thy accustomed goodness, for the merits of the same Thy Son our Saviour. Amen.

XXV.

The Second Collect, Part III.

1. Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.

2. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.

3. Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

4. Whom the Lord loveth He correcteth: even as a father the son in whom he delighteth.

5. As many as I love I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

[1] 1 Pet. iii. 15. [2] Jas. i. 12. [3] Heb. xii. 6. [4] Prov. iii. 12. [5] Rev. iii. 19.

6. Blessed is the man whom Thou chastenest, O Lord: and teachest him in Thy law.

7. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right: and that Thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled.

8. Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the Lord thy God chasteneth thee.

9. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men.

10. He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.

11. A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a Father, where is Mine honour? and if I be a Master, where is My fear, saith the Lord of hosts?

12. In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind?

13. Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time: casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you.

[6] Ps. xciv. 12. [7] Ps. cxix. 75. [8] Deut. viii. 5. [9] 2 Sam. vii. 14. [10] Prov. xiii. 24. [11] Mal. i. 6. [12] Job xii. 10. [13] 1 Pet. v. 6, 7.

Prayer—Sanctification through Correction.

Almighty Father, Who in Thy great love hast made us members of Thy family, and brethren with Thy

Son, our Lord; Increase in us Thy fear, that we may serve Thee with a loving heart and prompt obedience. Instruct us how to sanctify Thy Holy Name, and also how to sanctify ourselves by mortifying every lust and sin. Conform us to the pattern of Thy well-beloved Son, that we may do Thy will on earth as it is done in Heaven. And when, through mortal weakness, or forgetfulness, we turn from Thee, to follow sinful lusts, recall us by Thy voice of love, and lead us back to ways of holiness. When this world's ease and comfort dulls our hearts with carelessness, and long-continued health and vigour make us feel as if we needed no yoke of Thine, which would curtail our earthly pleasure; let Thy hand correct us; Chasten us Thy children with a Father's love, and not in anger. Keep us still Thy children in the bonds of holy love and duty. Temper all Thy discipline with tenderness. In pity save us from the snares that lie around us. Thou alone canst know what best befits our state; and Thou alone canst see the dangers that threaten us. Snatch us from the burning. Save us even as by fire; that from this furnace of affliction we may come to Thee renewed and purified, and ready to receive the crown that Thou hast promised. As a Father teach us how to honour Thee, by careful, upright, pure and holy lives; and as a Master train us in obedience, that our lives may be devoted to Thy service, and the talents

Thou hast given us may be returned with usury. Subdue our will to Thine; our judgment to Thy guidance; and make us know and feel that our salvation rests only in the merits of Thy Son. Hear us for His sake, O Lord. Amen.

XXVI.

The Second Collect, Part IV.

1. I said in the cutting off of my days, I shall go to the gates of the grave: I am deprived of the residue of my years.

2. Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so feeble that I cannot speak. I have considered the days of old, and the years that are past. Will the Lord absent Himself for ever: and will He be no more entreated? Is His mercy clean gone for ever: and is His promise come utterly to an end for evermore? Hath God forgotten to be gracious: and will He shut up His lovingkindness in displeasure? And I said, it is mine own infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the Most Highest.

3. Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble: and mine eye is consumed for very heaviness: yea, my soul and my body.

[1] Isa. xxxviii. 10. [2] Ps. lxxvii. 4, 10. [3] Ps. xxxi. 10.

4. Mine eyes fail for looking upward, O Lord, I am oppressed, undertake for me.

5. I will say unto the God of my strength, Why hast Thou forgotten me? Why go I thus heavily, while the enemy oppresseth me? Why art thou so vexed, O my soul: and why art thou so disquieted within me? O put thy trust in God: for I will yet thank Him, which is the help of my countenance and my God.

6. Lord, I believe, help Thou mine unbelief.

7. Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

8. I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth Thee; wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

9. Lord, how long wilt Thou hide Thyself, for ever: and shall Thy wrath burn like fire? O remember how short my time is: wherefore hast Thou made all men for nought?

10. So teach us to number our days: that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

[4] Isa. xxxviii. 14. [5] Ps. xlii. 11,15. [6] S. Mark ix. 24. [7] S. Luke xiii. 3. [8] Job xlii. 5, 6. [9] Ps. lxxxix. 46. [10] Ps. cx. 12.

Prayer—Weakness bringing Strength to Faith.

O God, Who knowest whereof we are made; how weak and frail, how prone to unbelief, how ready to despair: We pray Thee, lead us through this darkness

to the light of Heavenly day. Behold Thy servants in affliction, racked with tossings to and fro, the weary, heavy-hearted. struggling in the darkness. Guide them to the Sun of Righteousness, enlighten all poor suffering souls, that they may see their true estate, how weak, how sinful they have been before Thee. Bring to their remembrance all the days of old, the wasted hours and years, the careless lives, the obstinate forgetfulness of holy thoughts and ways. And with remembrance send them tears, the tears of true contrition, not the sighings of despair. And if, by reason of our weakness, trembling and dismay should seize upon us: if, by reason of our feebleness, we cannot utter words of prayer: increase, O Lord, our faith, and strengthen our remembrance of Thy lifelong goodness. Bring the sinner to the sight of his exceeding sinfulness, to self-examination, and a saving sense of his own frailty. Work in us a thankful remembrance of all Thy gracious promises, of all Thy persevering love and care; most loving when most chastening; most present when most hidden from our sight and sense. Restore our failing faith. Remove our doubts. Resolve our questionings with truths revealed, if so it must be, by fires of suffering; made bright and clear with flashes from the furnace. Let Thy judgments teach us our dependence on Thy mercy. Turn our hearts by all Thy visitations to that wisdom which

alone can teach us how to live in this world as sojourners and pilgrims to a better land. To which, we pray Thee, bring us, by the ways that seem best unto Thee, though not perhaps to us, for Jesus' sake, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

XXVII.

The Second Collect, Part V.

1. Withdraw not Thou Thy mercy from me, O Lord: let Thy lovingkindness and Thy truth alway preserve me. O Lord, let it be Thy pleasure to deliver me: Make haste, O Lord, to help me.

2. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and with Thine ears consider my calling: hold not Thy peace at my tears. For I am a stranger with Thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me a little that I may recover my strength: before I go hence, and be no more seen.

3. Not my will, but Thine be done.

4. The word of the Lord came unto Isaiah, saying, Tell Hezekiah, the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears; behold I will heal thee; and will add unto thy days fifteen years.

[1] Ps. xl. 14,16. [2] Ps. xxxix. 14, 15. [3] S. Luke xxii. 42. [4] 2 Kings xx.4,5.

5. Behold, thou art made whole, sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

6. Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the Lord, all the day long.

7. The living, the living, he shall praise Thee, as I do this day: the father to the children shall make known Thy truth. The Lord was ready to save me: therefore will we sing my songs to the stringed instruments, all the days of our life in the house of the Lord.

8. The Lord preserveth the simple: I was in misery and He blessed me I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living. What reward shall I give unto the Lord: for all the benefits that He hath done unto me? I will receive the cup of salvation: and call upon the Name of the Lord. I will pay my vows now in the presence of all His people: right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.

[5] S. John v. 14. [6] Prov. xxiii. 17. [7] Isa. xxxviii. 19, 20. [8] Ps. cxvi. 6-15.

Prayer—Restoration bringing Amendment.

O Lord our God, Who sendest to Thy people whatsoever seemeth best to Thee, and so dost order life, and death, and health, and sickness, not as in our blindness we would have them, but as seemeth good to Thine all-seeing wisdom: Grant us such humble, childlike and obedient hearts, that we may cheerfully submit ourselves to Thy disposal. When afflictions

wake us up to know our sinful state, our unpreparedness to die, and we beseech Thee, spare us yet a little while, that with recovered strength we may redeem the time, ere yet we come to our account; Lord, if to Thee it seemeth good to answer these our prayers; to spare our lives, and grant us yet a space for true repentance and amendment, add to these great mercies still Thy watchful care, that these good purposes be not dispersed as quickly as the sickness and the pain. Make us truly thankful for Thy mercy, and ever mindful of Thy lovingkindness, which so spared us when we deserved punishment, and rescued us from death. Enable us henceforth to dedicate to Thee that life which Thou hast so mercifully prolonged, by living to Thy glory, and serving Thee with greater zeal and faithfulness for all the days Thou mayest yet spare to us. Let us never lose the memory of all those prayers and vows and resolutions which we have made so freely in the midst of our trouble. Keep us by Thy grace from falling back. And make it henceforth our delight to do Thy will, and to find our greatest joy in the holy ordinances of Thy Church. And grant us the grace to hunger more and thirst more for that Bread which cometh down from Heaven, and that cup of health, the Body and the Blood of Jesus, which shall save us to eternal life, for His Name's sake. *Amen.*

XXVIII.

The Second Collect, Part VI.

1. God is able to make all grace abound toward you.

2. My grace is sufficient for thee.

3. I became dumb, and opened not my mouth: for it was Thy doing.

4. Wherefore doth a living man complain, a man for the punishment of his sins? Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the Lord.

5. All the days of my appointed time will I wait, till my change come.

6. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me.

7. I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself and not another.

8. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you; and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

[1] 2 Cor. ix. 8. [2] 2 Cor. xii. 9. [3] Ps. xxxix. 9. [4] Lam. iii. 39, 40. [5] Job xix. 14. [6] Ps. xxiii. 4. [7] Job xix. 25-27. [8] S. John xix. 2, 3.

9. Blessed is the man whom Thou chasteneth, O Lord : and teachest him in Thy law ; that Thou mayest give him patience in the days of adversity.

10. Blessed is the man that endureth temptation : for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love Him.

11. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him ; and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

[9] Ps. xciv. 12, 13. [10] Jas. i. 12. [11] 1 Thes. iv. 14-17.

Prayer—Death the Entrance to Eternal Life.

O God, Who givest grace sufficient for each present need, and dost see good to visit us with pain and sickness : Make Thy grace abound toward us even in the midst of trouble. Teach us to submit our wills to Thine, without murmuring, because it is Thy hand, and who are we that we should presume to question Thy divine behests? Whatever we may suffer how much less is that than what we have deserved! Add this still to Thy forbearance, that we may take thought, and search and try our ways, wherein we have offended, and so turn in true contrition for our evil deeds, and seek Thy pardon and love in Jesus Christ. And though Thou lead us even through the valley of the shadow of death, let no fears dismay, no terrors overcome our faith ; but bear us up ; support our steps,

and guide us through the darkness to eternal day. Raise our thoughts above decay and death to Him Who lives for ever, our Redeemer; Who shall one day stand upon the earth to welcome faithful souls to His right hand. And though this flesh of ours must fall into corruption, raise our minds to that great day when these bodies shall arise from the grave, renewed and glorified, and no longer subject to decay, but very parts of Him, true members of Thy Christ, in perfect health and beauty, and meet to stand amidst the hosts of Heaven. The ties of this world, love of friends and home, may be dissolved, but Thou hast mansions ready for us. Make us then in these adversities to struggle manfully towards the promised prize, that with those dear ones who have gone before, with all our faithful departed friends, we may rise to meet the Saviour when He comes, amidst the hosts of rejoicing saints, and so be ever with the Lord, for His dear sake. Amen.

XXIX.

The First Exhortation, Part I.

1. Shew Thy servant the light of Thy countenance: and save me for Thy mercy's sake.

2. The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayer.

[1] Ps. xxxi. 18. [2] 1 Pet. iii. 12.

3. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: long-suffering, and of great goodness. He will not alway be chiding: neither keepeth He His anger for ever.

4. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right: and that Thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled. O let Thy merciful kindness be my comfort: according to Thy word unto Thy servant. O let Thy loving mercies come unto me that I may live: for in Thy law is my delight. Mine eyes long sore for Thy word: saying, O when wilt Thou comfort me.

5. Turn Thee again, O Lord, at the last: and be gracious unto Thy servant. O satisfy us with Thy mercy, and that soon: so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life. Comfort us again now after the time that Thou hast plagued us; and for the years wherein we have suffered adversity.

6. I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comfort to him and to his mourners.

7. Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

8. In the fear of the Lord is my strength and confidence.

9. My soul truly waiteth still upon God: for of Him

[3] Ps. ciii. 8, 9. [4] Ps. cxix. 75-82. [5] Ps. xc 13, 15. [6] Isa. lvii. 18. [7] S. Matt. v. 4. [8] Prov. xiv. 26. [9] Ps. lxii. 1. 2.

cometh my salvation. He verily is my strength and my salvation: so that I shall not greatly fall.

10. Hear me, O Lord, for Thy lovingkindness is comfortable: turn Thee unto me according to the multitude of Thy mercies.

11. If our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

[10] Ps. lxix. 17. [11] 1 John iii. 21.

Prayer—God alone the Ruler of our Destinies.

Almighty God, the only Lord in Heaven above and on the earth beneath; to Whom alone pertaineth power and dominion over all things: Grant to us Thy servants such a firm dependence on Thine arm, that we may rest secure through all dangers, trusting in Thy love. Enable us in every circumstance, in every accident of life, to trace Thy hand, Who dost hold every soul of living things, the breath of all mankind. In Thee our God and Father do we trust, as loving children; from Thee, O God the Son, we have salvation; by Thee, O God the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life, we live. When death comes near to threaten us, teach us how to suffer patiently, by His great example, Who, although by no sin a debtor, of Himself laid down His life, that we might live. Thou needest not our service, though at every moment we depend upon Thee. Prevent us by Thy grace lest we

abuse Thy gifts by turning them against Thee. Let us not forget Thy many benefits, which we receive not only because we are Thy creatures, but because we are Thy redeemed in Christ. Preserve within our minds a lively recollection of our sins remitted, our infirmities and the frailties of our nature healed, our life saved from destruction by His death, our faithfulness rewarded, Heaven and all its happiness secured and sealed to us in His most precious Blood, this mortal body made immortal by His resurrection, and renewed to youth and beauty like His own. Though now we may be sore troubled, tried as silver in the fire, we pray Thee, hide not Thou Thy face from us, but shine upon us in Thy lovingkindness, and accept us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

XXX.

The First Exhortation, Part II.

1. Shall there be evil in a city, and the Lord hath not done it?

2. O Lord, Thou hast searched me out and known me: Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising; Thou understandest my thoughts long before. Thou art about my path and about my bed: and spiest out

[1] Amos iii. 6. [2] Ps. cxxxix. 1-9.

all my ways. For lo, there is not a word in my tongue: but Thou, O Lord, knowest it altogether. Whither shall I go then from Thy presence? If I climb up into Heaven, Thou art there: if I go down to hell, Thou art there also. If I take the wings of the morning: and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there also shall Thy hand lead me: and Thy right hand shall hold me.

3. Who is like unto the Lord our God, that hath His dwelling so high: and yet humbleth Himself to behold the things that are in Heaven and earth?

4. Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your Heavenly Father feedeth them. Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

5. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

6. I will consider Thy Heavens, even the works of Thy fingers: the moon and the stars which Thou hast ordained. What is man, that Thou art mindful of him: and the son of man that Thou visitest him?

[3] Ps. cxiii. 5. [4] S. Matt. vi. 26-29. [5] S. Matt. x. 29. [6] Ps. viii. 3, 4.

Prayer—All Things by God's Permission.

Almighty God, Who dost rule and control all things, teach us to discern the workings of Thy providence in everything that may befall us; not ascribing our sufferings to accident or evil fortune, but rather to Thy displeasure against sin, or Thy merciful design for our amendment. Give us faith and trust as wide and large as the mind of man can compass. While all creatures serve Thee, though some know it not, make us to know Thee more and more, that so we may rejoice the more to do Thy holy will. Within the hollow of Thy hand are held unnumbered worlds. We know this earth is but a speck amidst the universe, and all creation moves in harmony beneath Thy watchful eye. If there be millions more of worlds than the mind of man hath yet conceived, all moving in majestic harmony beneath Thy providence, not more do these display Thy power than the humblest insect breathing at Thy pleasure. Let the thought of Thy benignant eye regarding all the mighty universe of created things, and yet not overlooking one remotest corner, not one sparrow, not one hair, impress upon us humble, earnest faith, and holy awe. Behold, the Heaven of Heavens cannot contain Thee, yet Thou dwellest in the humble and contrite heart: Lord, grant us then a true contrition. Let Thy chastisements induce repent-

ance and amendment. And grant that, as Thou hast visited Thy servants, not in wrath and sore displeasure, but in watchful love and care, so Thou mayest visit us with Thy salvation, through the merits of Thy Son our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

XXXI.

The First Exhortation, Part III.

1. Thou, O God, hast proved us: Thou also hast tried us, like as silver is tried. Thou broughtest us into the snare: and laidest trouble upon our loins.

2. My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

3. Rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

4. We glory in tribulations also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience.

5. The trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise, and honour and glory, at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

[1] Ps. lxvi. 9, 10. [2] Jas. i. 2, 4. [3] 1 Pet. iv. 13. [4] Rom. v. 3. [5] 1 Pet. i. 7.

6. In your patience possess ye your souls.

7. Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

8. Strengthened with all might according to His glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering, with joyfulness.

9. Ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

10. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the Name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.

11. I waited patiently for the Lord: and He inclined unto me, and heard my calling. As for me, I am poor and needy: but the Lord careth for me.

[6] S. Luke xxi. 19. [7] Rom. xv. 3, 4. [8] Col. i. 11. [9] Heb. x. 36. [10] Jas. v. 10. [11] Ps. xl. 1, 20.

Prayer—Patience tried for Others' Example.

O Heavenly Father, Who to prove and try our faith, dost send afflictions to Thy servants: Grant us grace to recognise in these Thy dispensations proofs of Thy tender love and saving mercy, rather than the terrors of avenging wrath. When snares beset our way, and dangers threaten us on every hand, and troubles seem as though they would thrust us from Thy side, enable us to cling with firmer, surer faith to Thy protecting

arm. Impart to us the joy of knowing whence these trials come, and by what a perfect and all-seeing love and care they are directed. So may we endure in stedfastness, and suffer in patience, knowing that, as silver is refined, so only out of these cleansing fires can we be made pure and perfect. While the world around sees only bitterness in sickness, give Thy chosen servants grace to greet these dealings of Thy hand as blessings sent by Thee, to mould us in the fashion of Thy Son our Saviour, Who Himself has trod the way of suffering, and knows what is best for us. Thou biddest us be perfect; fit us therefore for Thy Heavenly kingdom by supplying what is imperfect in us; by purifying what is evil, cleansing what is vile, enlightening what is dark. And if it please Thee that our pilgrimage should lead us through great sorrows, lonely hours, distracting pains, before we can be made ready for Thy kingdom; let us not be weary or impatient by the way, but cheer us with the thoughts of those who have gone before us by the path of suffering to certain glory. So may we be examples to others, triumphing in faith and patience, glorying to share the cross, so that we may come at last to wear the promised crown, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

XXXII.

The First Exhortation, Part IV.

1. Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory: while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2. I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

3. But the God of all grace, Who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

4. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy, hath begotten us again to a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time, wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations.

[1] 2 Cor. iv. 17, 18. [2] Rom. viii. 18. [3] 1 Pet. v. 10. [4] 1 Pet. i. 3-6.

5. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love His appearing.

6. To them who, by patient continuance in well-doing, seek for glory, and honour, and immortality, eternal life.

[5] 2 Tim. iv. 8. [6] Rom. ii. 7.

Prayer—The Reward of Proven Faith.

O Thou, all-wise, all-seeing God, Who would prepare our souls for life eternal by the sorrows of to-day: Impart to us a portion of Thy wisdom, that we may be able to compare things that are light with those more weighty; passing moments with eternity; afflictions with the weight of glory. Wean us from the foolishness of living for this world only. Suffer us not to quench the longings for the better life by draughts of sinful pleasure, or by heedlessness of soul; but open to our minds the life beyond the clouds, and train us for our entrance to those unknown regions. Let not the prizes of this world, wealth, or honour, fascinate our gaze, but fix our hearts and hopes on better things that we have heard of Thee, those lasting glories which are promised to the faithful in Thy Son our Lord. When earth grows dim, and diseases attack this mortal frame, reveal to us the brighter joys of

Heaven, the unfading splendours which are round about Thy throne. Beside the trials now surrounding us, however bitter, place Thy never-failing promises in Christ, and so confirm our faith, that after this rough voyage we may enter joyfully the haven of Thy rest. Permit us not to be confounded by these troubles, but direct them so that we may feel the more Thy love and care for our salvation. Teach us how to walk as did Thy suffering saints, that so through suffering we also may attain perfection. By Thy chastening establish, strengthen, settle this imperfect faith of ours, that in the strength Thou givest we may fight the battle, run the race, and win the crown. Receive us at the last as more than conquerors through Him Who for our sakes endured the bitter Cross, and reigneth now with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God for evermore. Amen.

XXXIII.

The First Exhortation, Part V.

1. When Thou with rebukes dost chasten man for sin, Thou makest his beauty to consume away, like as it were a moth fretting a garment: every man therefore is but vanity.

2. If his children forsake My law: and walk not in

[1] Ps. xxxix. 12. [2] Ibid, 31, 32.

My judgments; if they break My statutes, and keep not My commandments: I will visit their offences with the rod, and their sin with scourges. Nevertheless, My lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him: nor suffer My truth to fail.

3. I will go and return to My place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek My face: in their affliction will they seek Me early.

4. As many as I love I rebuke and chasten.

5. If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their forefathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against Me, and that also they have walked contrary to Me.

6. Ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye search for Me with all your heart.

7. Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity.

8. O Lord, Thou hast dealt graciously with Thy servant, according unto Thy word. O learn me true understanding and knowledge: for I have believed in Thy commandments. Before I was troubled I went wrong: but now have I kept Thy word. It is good for me that I have been in trouble: that I may learn Thy statutes.

9. I will be his Father, and he shall be my son. If

[3] Hos. v. 15. [4] Rev. iii. 19. [5] Lev. xxvi. 40. [6] Jer. xxix. 13. [7] Heb. i. 13. [8] Ps. cxix. 65-71. [9] 2 Sam. vii. 14.

he commit iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men, and with the stripes of the children of men.

10. Happy is the man whom the Lord correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastenings of the Almighty.

[10] Job v. 17.

Prayer—Correction and Amendment.

O Lord, beneath Whose chastening hand the comeliness and beauty of the outward man consume away and perish: Fix our minds the rather on that loveliness of soul which Thou desirest. Fashion us according to the pattern of our perfect Lord. Renew our inward man from day to day, and make us grow in grace and holiness. Thy judgments we accept as punishments too well deserved, but as acts of favour also, as mercies filled with tenderest love. We do confess that we have not walked in Thy judgments, kept not Thy commandments, therefore we deserve the scourges of Thy rod; but we beseech Thee, take not utterly Thy lovingkindness from us. Suffer not Thy truth to fail. In our afflictions we acknowledge our offence, and seek Thy face; withdraw not then Thy countenance, but shew Thy mercies upon us, and amend in us those things in which we have offended Thy pure eyes. Correct and chasten our wayward wills, that, seeking Thee with all our hearts, we may escape destruction,

and be saved, even as by fire. Our ways of ignorance and error call to our remembrance, for that Thou, most merciful, desirest not the death of a sinner, but rather that we should turn to Thee and live. Before Thy judgment seat we tremble, and yet in penitence we draw nigh to Thee for pardon and acceptance, through the merits of our Saviour, Jesus. Lord, correct us, but with judgment, not in Thine anger, lest we perish. Grant us even here some earnest of our promised heritage, some foretaste of that "hidden manna" which whosoever eateth lives; some draught of "living water," that we may thirst no more, through Jesus Christ, our Bread and Staff of endless life. Amen.

XXXIV.

The First Exhortation, Part VI.

1. Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for He hath torn and He will heal us; He hath smitten and He will bind us up.

2. There is no health in my flesh, because of Thy displeasure: neither is there any rest in my bones by reason of my sin. For my wickednesses are gone over my head: and are like a sore burden, too heavy for

[1] Hos. vi. 1. [2] Ps. xxxviii. 3, 18.

me to bear. I will confess my wickedness, and be sorry for my sin.

3. I will arise, and go to my Father, and will say unto Him, Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before Thee, and am no more worthy to be called Thy son.

4. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

5. O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thy iniquity. Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto Him, take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.

6. Surely it is meet to be said unto God, I have borne chastisement, I will not offend any more: that which I see not, teach Thou me; If I have done iniquity, I will do no more.

7. The patient abiding of the meek shall not perish for ever.

8. Commit thy way unto the Lord, and put thy trust in Him: and He shall bring it to pass.

9. Thou art my Helper and Redeemer: make no long tarrying, O my God.

[3] S. Luke xv. 19. [4] Isa. lv. 7. [5] Hos. xiv. 1, 2. [6] Job xxxiv. 31, 32. [7] Ps. ix. 18. [8] Ps. xxxvii. 5. [9] Ps. xl. 21.

Prayer—Repentance, Patience, Trust.

Almighty God, Who, when afflictions come upon us, seemest to withdraw Thy presence, shutting out all hope and comfort; Cast us not off altogether, but by these things make us know our wickedness and folly, so that, finding no comfort without Thee, we may desire Thy presence above all things. Not alone to Thee belongs the power and will to heal, but Thou hast torn *in order* that we might be healed; Thou didst smite, in order that our wounds should be bound up. Thou makest us to possess our own iniquities, and we go mourning all the day long, acknowledging our wickedness, and groaning underneath the load of sin; but comfort us in Thy great mercy; hear our Advocate at Thy right hand, Who knoweth all our misery, and joineth to our prayers His own. Remove from our souls the burden of unrepented, long-forgotten sins, by granting us a godly sorrow, which leadeth to repentance. Bless Thy servants, who thus mourn. Give unto us the oil of joy for mourning; the garment of rejoicing for the robe of heaviness. Lord, be Thou our Refuge from the sufferings of this life; for Thou art the Stronghold of our hope; and grant us patience in our troubles. Vouchsafe us strength to bear whatever Thou shalt lay upon us. Teach us that which we see not as yet, the love and wisdom of Thy

dealings. Draw us unto Thyself in perfect trust, that we may confidently wait for Thy salvation, resting on Thy promise, Who wilt make all things work together for the good of those who serve Thee faithfully. Delay not Thy deliverance beyond our strength and patience; and though the time seem long, uphold us till we see the crown of triumph, and our great reward, in Jesus Christ, for His dear sake. Amen.

XXXV.

The First Exhortation, Part VII.

1. I will thank the Lord for giving me warning: my reins also chasten me in the night season. I have set God always before me: for He is on my right hand, I shall not fall.

2. It is good for me that I have been in trouble: that I might learn Thy statutes. I know, O Lord, that Thy judgments are right: and that Thou of very faithfulness hast caused me to be troubled.

3. Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered.

4. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being

[1] *Ps. xvi. 8, 9.* [2] Ps. cxix. 71, 75. [3] Heb. v. 8. [4] 1 Pet. i. 6, 7.

much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory, at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

5. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

6. Thou, our God, hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve.

7. Let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

8. Job arose and worshipped, and said, Naked I came out of my mother's womb, and naked I shall return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the Name of the Lord.

9. It is the Lord, let Him do what seemeth Him good.

10. Thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee.

11. He retaineth not His anger for ever.

[5] Ps. xxv. 9. [6] Ezra ix. 13. [7] 1 Pet. iv. 19. [8] Job. i. 20, 21. [9] 1 Sam. iii. 18. [10] Deut. viii. 2. [11] Mic. vii. 18.

Prayer—Thankful Submission to God's Will.

O Lord, we thank Thee for Thy warnings, which so graciously prevent us from wandering away beyond

recovery. Permit us not to feast on the pleasures of this life, until all taste for higher joys is lost; but so prepare our hearts, that we may long for the pure delights of holiness and Heaven. Help us to own Thy governance, with meek submissive awe, and in Thy very rod to find a comfort. Teach us thankfulness for these pains, which may be but signs of growing holiness within; to look on these afflictions but as hewings of Thy hand, to shape us into comely stones for places in Thy Church. Incline our hearts to greet with thankful reverence each pain and sickness as an ambassador sent down to us from Thee. Enable us to cast all our cares upon Thee; to cease from thoughts of self; to know that Thou in perfect love and wisdom art directing all things for our good. While we relinquish earthly props and helpers, give us courage to commit ourselves with perfect trust and confidence to Thy Almighty arm. Relieve us, even as we kneel, of this great load of care and conscious sin, and fears of death, that we may rest with cheerful trustfulness, confiding in Thy pardoning love. And give us grace to leave all else to Thee; to taste, in even sorrows, peace. Remove our faithless fears, our trembling, at the touch of Thy loving hand, which only seeks to wipe away our tears; and make us ready to yield all that we are and have to Thee, Who never hast withheld one single thing that is good from us. Sustain us

underneath our Cross with thoughts of Him, Who on His Cross endured for us far more than we can think. Lord hear our prayer for Jesus' sake. Amen.

XXXVI.

The First Exhortation, Part VIII.

1. Knowing that tribulation worketh patience, and patience, experience; and experience, hope; and hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

2. Count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

3. Rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

4. No chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yielded the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them that are exercised thereby.

5. When thou art in tribulation, and all these things

[1] Rom. v. 3, 5. [2] Jas. i. 2, 4. [3] 1 Pet. iv. 13. [4] Heb. xii. 11. [5] Deut. iv. 30, 31.

are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn unto the Lord thy God, and shall be obedient unto His voice (for the Lord thy God is a merciful God), He will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which He sware unto them.

6. Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

7. Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

8. I will try thee as gold is tried: and they shall call upon My Name, and I will hear them: I will say, it is My people: and they shall say, the Lord is my God.

9. The Lord delivereth the souls of His servants: and all they that put their trust in Him shall not be destitute.

[6] S. John xv. 2. [7] Isa. xlviii. 10. [8] Zech. xiii. 9. [9] Ps. xxxiv. 22.

Prayer—Benefits of Sickness.

O Heavenly Father, Who, in tender love, and for our profit, causest us to be afflicted: Be pleased to further in us Thy compassionate designs, and make our tribulations work within us patience. Suffer not our peace and joy and hope to be dispersed and overthrown by suffering, but rather strengthened by these

proofs that Thou art caring for us. Let Thy mercy shine upon us yet more brightly as we near our distant home; and as our trials press more heavily against us, still the more fully supply us with the comfort of Thy grace, that so the fruits of pain and sorrow may be Heavenly treasure and increase of joy. Renew our hearts, so long defiled by sin; and bend our own stubborn wills to Thine, that we may find the peace and joy of those who do Thy will in Heaven. Our mortal nature shrinks from Thy painful cure. We dread Thy godly discipline of woes and sufferings, sickness and strife; but do Thou lead us with Thy firm and gentle hand, that we may come victorious out of all, and think no more of suffering while we look for the joys which Thou hast promised. Open Thou our ears, that even in the midst of these abounding trials we may hear Thy voice of comfort, as we pass along, reminding us of Him Who bore for us all pain and sorrow, while treading out the path that leads to glory and eternal rest. Behold us, who are weak and frail, and prone to fall, and support us, O Heavenly Father, with Thy everlasting arms. Unveil to us Thy face of love, and cheer us with Thy smile, that we may press with renewed faith and hope along the Heavenward way. Enlighten us with Thy pure Spirit, that we may behold, and attain at last unto Thy glory, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

XXXVII.

The Further Exhortation, Part I.

1. Ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

2. Ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby ye cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God; and if children, then heirs: heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ: if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together.

3. The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us.

4. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

5. Ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children. My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of Him. For whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement,

[1] Gal. iii. 26, 27. [2] Rom. viii. 15, 16. [3] Rom. v. 5. [4] Gal. iv. 7. [5] *Heb. xii.* 5-11.

whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence, shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of spirits, and live? For they, verily, for a few days, chastened us after their own pleasure; but He, for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them that are exercised thereby.

Prayer—Our Father's Chastening.

O Heavenly Father, Who hast called us out of the world to be Thy children, and under Thine especial guidance: Give to us Thy Heavenly grace, that we may walk aright. Enlighten Thou our minds that we may walk according to Thy direction, and in obedience to Thy will; not falling back to spiritual infancy, but growing every day in grace, and Heavenly virtues. Enable us by our life and character to shew Whose we are, by our using well the right of access to Thy presence, bringing unto Thee our needs and sorrows, and looking constantly for Thy love and care. We thank Thee for that robe of righteousness, wherewith Thou dost cover our defects, that pure and spotless robe which alone can make us fit to come into Thy presence.

Grant that we may never spoil or wilfully defile that robe by stubborn unbelief, or careless disobedience, but help us to keep it spotless till we come, still wearing it, before Thy judgment seat. So lead us by Thy Spirit that we may be like to Thee our Father; ruling all our actions by Thy word, and following the example of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, our elder Brother. Teach us to accept Thy chastenings as marks of tenderest love. However grievous for the present, still we know Thou sendest us afflictions for our everlasting good. As branches of the vine, we need Thy pruning, so that we may yield more fruit. So deal with us that we may be partakers of Thy holiness, and shew forth the plentiful fruits of peace. Preserve in us the evidence and proofs that we are Thine indeed, Thy children, and joint-heirs with Christ. And admit us, who have suffered with Him here, to be partakers of His glory when He cometh, through the same, our Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

XXXVIII.

The Further Exhortation, Part II.

1. Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

[1] Rom. xv. 4.

2. From a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Jesus Christ. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

3. O think upon Thy servant, as concerning Thy word, wherein Thou has caused me to put my trust. The same is my comfort in my trouble: for Thy word hath quickened me. I remembered Thine everlasting judgments, O Lord: and received comfort. I called mine own ways to remembrance: and turned my feet unto Thy testimonies. I made haste, and prolonged not the time: to keep Thy commandments.

4. And the king said, Let him curse, because the Lord hath said unto him, Curse David. Who shall then say, Wherefore hast thou done so? It may be the Lord will look on mine affliction, and that the Lord will requite me good for his cursing this day.

5. And Samuel told Eli every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, It is the Lord: let Him do what seemeth Him good.

6. Our soul is escaped even as a bird out of the snare of the fowler: the snare is broken, and we are

[2] 2 Tim. iii. 15, 17. [3] Ps. cxix. 49-60. [4] 2 Sam. xvi. 10, 12. [5] 1 Sam. iii. 18. [6] Ps. cxxiv. 6, 7.

delivered. Our help standeth in the Name of the Lord, who hath made Heaven and earth.

7. Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

[7] Eph. v. 20.

Prayer—Instruction and Comfort in God's Word.

O God, Who hast vouchsafed us in Thy Holy Word such treasures of instruction, patience, and comfort: Open Thou our minds that we may gather warnings from its histories, and wisdom from its counsels; learning thus to pass with stedfast faith through all the troubles of this present world, and cheerfully to take its sorrows as they come, still hoping for Thy mercy. Make us lovers of Thy Holy Word, that we may derive from it a daily store of light and strength. We thank Thee that as Thou didst join Thyself to human nature in the Incarnation, even so Thy Holy Spirit has chosen human minds and words and writings as a means of communication with us. Make us perceive therein Thy guidance, comfort, and instruction. In that Holy Fount of truth refresh our fainting souls, that, after the example of Thy servant David, we may find comfort in the midst of troubles, strength in temptation, and victory in tribulation. Awake in us a due remembrance of our long-*forgotten* sins, and turn our feet unto Thy testimonies,

that we may redeem the time by a true and heartfelt repentance; making haste, while still Thy day of favour lasts, to turn to Thee for life and pardon. Work in us a due submission to Thy Holy Will, that we may welcome whatever seems good to Thee. Reveal Thyself, Creator of the world, as our Redeemer; that while in sadness or affliction we tread this earth, we may in heart be still ascending Heavenwards. Teach us how to give thanks for all things; for afflictions as for mercies; knowing that Thou canst but order all things well for us, whom in Thy Son Thou lovest. Hear us, for the merits of the same, our Saviour Christ. Amen.

XXXIX.

The Further Exhortation, Part III.

1. For unto you it is given in behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake.

2. Even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth: Who, when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him that judgeth

[1] Phil. i. 29. [2] 1 Pet. ii. 21-24.

righteously: Who His own self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by Whose stripes ye were healed.

3. He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so opened He not His mouth.

4. Most gladly, therefore, will I glory in infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake.

5. I am filled with comfort, I am exceeding joyful in all our tribulation.

6. Our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and God, even our Father, hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation.

7. Let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator.

8. Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered; and being made perfect, He became the Author of Eternal Salvation unto all them that obey Him.

[3] Isa. liii. 7. [4] 2 Cor. xii. 9, 10. [5] 2 Cor. vii. 4 [6] 2 Thes. ii. 16. [7] 1 Pet. iv. 19. [8] Heb. v. 8, 9.

Prayer—Likeness to Christ in Suffering.

O Blessed God, we thank Thee for the numberless blessings Thou hast heaped upon us: for that Faith whereby we know Thee, and our Saviour Jesus; for Thy Holy Word; for power to pray; for grace and life dispensed in Thy Holy Sacraments. But still another treasure hast Thou given us, the privilege of suffering, whereby we may grow like our Example, Thy Beloved Son, Who for our sakes suffered willingly, and showed us how, for His sake, we must also suffer. Keep before our minds, O Lord, those sacred memories of Him in suffering, Who did no sin, and was full of grace and truth, yet He had to suffer shame and agonies upon the Cross. Our worthiness, we know, can never be like His, nor yet our sufferings; but Thou canst give us power to imitate at least His patience. Therefore, when Thy hand lies heavily upon us, help us to abstain from angry or rebellious words or acts, and calmly to commit ourselves to Thee, and learn the lessons of Thy school of discipline, obedience, and love. We cannot see, we cannot know why Thy creation should be full of suffering: but yet we know that Thou art love. We know that on the Cross of Christ the suffering of Innocence renewed the world, and thus we learn to wait in confidence for the working out of Thy designs. If it be

Thy will we should suffer, teach us how to grow still more like Christ by knowing how to suffer. Even as He bowed His will to Thine the night before His bitter death, so let Thy mercy keep us restful in our sorrow, as knowing that our souls are in Thine hand, Who as a Father lovest us. Lord, hear us, for His sake, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

XL.

The Further Exhortation, Part IV.

1. Jesus said unto him, I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

2. I am the Door; by Me if any man enter in, he shall be saved.

3. It is a faithful saying: for if we be dead with Him, we shall also reign with Him: if we deny Him, He will also deny us.

4. If we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him. Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? If we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection; knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over Him.

[1] S. John xiv. 16. [2] S. John x. 9. [3] 2 Tim. ii. 11, 12. [4] Rom. vi. 8, 9.

5. Ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ, Who is our Life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory.

6. I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us.

7. If the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.

8. These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His Temple.

[5] Col. iii. 3, 4. [6] Rom. viii. 18. [7] Ibid v. 11. [8] Rev. vii. 14, 15.

Prayer—The Door to Life Eternal.

O Blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, in this our day of ignorance and darkness, when the way seems dark before us, and affliction clouds our pilgrimage through this tangled world, we pray Thee of Thy goodness, shew Thyself unto us, Thy Sufferings and Life to be our Way; Thy teaching for our Truth; Thy grace our Life. Enable us in this our weakness to lay hold upon Thee as our Strength, that we may feel

indeed that Thou alone canst bring us to that happiness for which Thou madest us. Be Thou the way of our desires, the Truth in which we trust, the Life we strive to live by. May we find within our silent chamber, shut in from the world, a door and entrance to Thy gracious Presence. May we find Thyself the Door to life eternal. Thou didst make us in our Baptism sharers of Thy death; and gavest us a portion in Thy Cross and Grave; instruct us therefore how to mortify our lusts, that so Thy inward life may spring up in our hearts; and one day, after many trials, it may be, burst forth into the brightness of eternal joy. Enable us to bear our cross, and follow after Thee; to count as nothing the pains and sufferings of this short life, compared with the bliss of that which Thou hast promised. Keep us from the danger of denying Thee in our conduct; from all impatience, wilfulness, and unbelief. Forgive our past unfaithfulness, and help us when the bitter trial comes. By sufferings, if so it be Thy gracious will, prepare and purify us for Thy Presence, making them acceptable by the virtue of Thine own sufferings. And bring us safe at last, Thy sheep, to Heavenly pastures; Thine afflicted, to eternal rest; Thy faithful, to the vision of our God; for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

XLI.

The Further Exhortation, Part V.

1. The Lord is good unto them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeketh Him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

2. He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opened not His mouth.

3. He that dwelleth in love: dwelleth in God, and God in Him. Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because, as He is, so are we in this world.

4. It shall be said in that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us: this is the Lord; we have waited for Him, we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.

5. Be blameless and harmless, the sons of God without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

6. Be ye also patient: stablish your hearts: for the

[1] Lam. iii. 25, 26. [2] Isa. liii. 7. [3] 1 John iv. 16, 17. [4] Isa. xxv. 9. [5] Phil. ii. 15, 16. [6] Jas. v. 8-11.

coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the Name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience. Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord, that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

7. Blessed is the man whom Thou chastenest, O Lord: that Thou mayest give him patience in time of adversity.

[7] Ps. cxiv 12, 13.

Prayer—Patience under Correction.

Almighty Lord, Who sendest sickness for our profit, and to draw us nearer unto Thee: Enable us in all our pain and weakness still to place our trust in Thee, Who hast been, and Who ever art, our Refuge and Defence in all our troubles, and dost invite us most lovingly to cast our cares upon Thee, for Thou never failest them that seek Thee. Grant us grace and confidence that Thou wilt choose for us far better than we can choose for ourselves; that Thou hast power to help us when we are weak and helpless. Teach us how to trust Thy fatherly love and care to deal out all our trials with a tender hand, and to turn them to our greater good and comfort in the end. And since we rest upon Thee as our Rock and Stay, permit us not

to sink in faintness or despair, or think our troubles greater than we can endure. For Thou, O Lord, knowest the weight that we can bear far better than we know ourselves, and wouldst not lay upon us more than we have strength to carry. Make Thy strength, then, perfect in our weakness. Though we suffer many things, Thy servants ever thus have borne the cross, and thus have learned Thy pitiful and tender mercy. Give us of their patience. Teach us by our Blessed Lord's example cheerfully to take the cup Thou offerest, and calmly to wait for Thy benediction. Shew to us the blessings which accompany Thy chastisements, that we may thankfully discern Thy love, rejoicing that we are thus counted worthy to be made like Jesus in our patient suffering. To Thee in Him we offer all our pains. Accept them for His sake, and purify us in this furnace, so that we may find a place at last among Thy precious ones. Hear us, Heavenly Father, for His blessed Name's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

XLII.

The Further Exhortation, Part VI.

1. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering.

[1] Heb. x. 23.

2. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

3. For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end.

4. Ye that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath He reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in His sight: if ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the Gospel.

5. Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven, but he that doeth the will of My Father, which is in Heaven.

6. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him; and he cannot sin because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil; whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God.

7. The grace of God that bringeth salvation hath

[2] 1 Tim. vi. 12. [3] Heb. iii. 14. [4] Col. i. 21-23. [5] S. Matt. *vii. 21.* [6] *1 John* iii. 8, 9. [7] Tit. ii. 11-14.

appeared unto all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world; looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people zealous of good works.

Prayer—Remembrance of our Baptism.

Almighty Father, Who hast made us Thine adopted children, in Thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, enrolling us as soldiers of the Cross, and calling us from this world to be joined, as very members of His Body, heirs with Him of Heaven: Keep within our hearts a due remembrance of the vows and promises, the obligations we entered into by that solemn covenant. We confess that many times we have forgotten Thee, our Father and our God; that sorely we have soiled that pure baptismal robe, and fallen before the devil's attacks, yielding weakly, shamefully, to sins we had renounced; denying in our lives the faith we had professed; obeying our own lusts, and not Thy will. Forgive, we pray Thee, our unworthiness; our grievous sins; and suffer not Thy children, who have known the Truth of Christ, and been admitted to Thy holy Church, to fall away again from grace, or finally to

cast themselves beyond the reach of Thy salvation. Strengthen us against our adversary. No more let him get advantage over us, but help us in Thy great long-suffering love, to fight more manfully beneath the standard of the Cross, against the world, the flesh, and the devil. In our weakness and in our sickness, grant that we may find fresh strength, and purer faith, and brighter hope. And while we mourn for broken vows, and wasted time, and many wanderings in past days, renew Thy Holy Spirit in our hearts, that we may gather up the fragments that remain, and live henceforth a purer, truer life, as those who are new-risen from the dead, and hoping even yet, through Thy great mercy, and the merits of our Saviour Christ, to enter into our inheritance in Heaven. Amen.

XLIII.

The Further Exhortation, Part VII.

1. It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.

2. God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

3. He hath appointed a day, in the which He will

[1] Heb. ix. 27. [2] Eccles. xii. 14. [3] Acts xviii. 31.

judge the world in righteousness by that Man Whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead.

4. We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

5. I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the Books were opened, and another Book was opened, which is the Book of Life; and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the Books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead that were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

6. Behold, I come quickly; and My reward is with Me, to give to every man according as his works shall be.

7. The hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

8. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed

[4] 2 Cor. v. 10. [5] Rev. xx. 12, 13. [6] Rev. xxii. 12. [7] S. John v. 28, 29. [8] S. John iii. 18.

in white raiment, and I will not blot out his name out of the Book of Life. but I will confess his name before My Father, and before His Angels.

9. The Lord grant unto us, that we may find mercy of the Lord in that day.

[9] 2 Tim. i. 18.

Prayer—The Future Judgment.

Almighty God, Who searchest the heart; Whose eyes are as a flame of fire, beholding the evil and the good: We thank Thee for Thy many mercies, and not the least for Thy forbearance and long-suffering, which spares us when we deserve punishment, and warns us lovingly lest we come to destruction. Grant us to learn and take to heart these lessons of affliction, which are meant by Thee to bring us to repentance and amendment, ere it be too late. Prepare us for that certain judgment which must come to all men. So guide us by Thy Holy Word that we may hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which Thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. So raise our earthly minds from this world that they may be made Heavenly; and by Thy grace so change our hearts that we may love Thy Holy Word, and keep it, making it our guide of life, that it may prove our hope and not our condemnation, when Thou dost open it for *judgment*. We confess that we have nothing where-

with to pay that debt we owe Thee; but on our Surety we depend, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Thy Son, made Man for us. Teach us to trust in Him, that we may rise above the trials that surround us, and rejoice in hope that, through our Advocate, our sins are pardoned. Our sins have cried to Heaven, calling down Thy judgment, but for Thy dear Son's sake, still Thou sparest us; and with the cry that rises to Thy throne, we pray Thee, hear His loving voice, the cry of that Merciful Lamb, Who was nailed upon the Cross for the sins of men, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." When mortal pains attack these suffering bodies, lift our eyes by faith to see the Saviour crucified for us, and for His merits blot not out our names, which Thou hast written in the Book of Life. So may we find Thy mercy in that day, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

XLIV.

The Further Exhortation, Part VIII.

1. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.

2. Examine yourselves whether ye be in the Faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not, your own selves,

[1] 2 Cor. v. 11. [2] 2 Cor. xiii. 5.

how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates.

3. Examine me, O Lord, and prove me: try out my reins and my heart. I will wash mine hands in innocency, O Lord; and so will I go to Thine Altar.

4. If I incline unto wickedness with mine heart, the Lord will not hear me. But God hath heard me; and considered the voice of my prayer. Praised be God, Who hath not cast out my prayer: nor turned His mercy from me.

5 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.

6. While I held my tongue: my bones consumed away through my daily complaining. For Thy hand is heavy upon me day and night: and my moisture is like the drought in summer. I will acknowledge my sin unto Thee: and mine unrighteousness have I not hid. I said, I will confess my sins unto the Lord: and so Thou forgavest the wickedness of my sin.

7. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

8. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[3] Ps. xxvii. 2-6. [4] Ps. lxvi. 16-18. [5] Prov. xxviii. 13. [6] Ps. xxxii. 3-6. [7] S. John iii. 16. [8] S. John i. 9.

9. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

[9] 2 Pet. iii. 9.

Prayer—Self-Examination.

O Lord our God, Who lightenest every man that cometh into the world, enlighten our hearts, we pray Thee, with the light of Thy grace and Holy Spirit, that we may fully know and feel our many sins, of omission and commission; our negligences and shortcomings, and may confess them with a true and contrite heart. O Holy Lord, who hitherto hast spared us when we deserved punishment, add this to all Thy mercies, that we may in time repent. And work in us a true contrition for our many grievous sins, that we have sinned against Thee and against our neighbours. Take away all blindness and all self-deceit. Awaken in our hearts that voice of conscience which Thou hast given us, that, judging and and condemning our own faults, we may escape condemnation in the day of Christ. Thou only knowest how great sinners we have been; how many times we sinned against Thee knowingly and wilfully; how many more, alas! thoughtlessly and carelessly, without concern, without compunction. Make us to

grieve for those sins we remember; lay bare before us those we have forgotten. Who can tell how oft he offendeth? O cleanse us from our secret faults. Make our sins appear to us as Thou hast seen them. Make us to hate them even as Thou dost hate them. Touch our hearts with some true consciousness of what Thy blessed Son endured for us. Convince us of our share in His most cruel death. And let the thought of Jesus, wounded, bruised, and dying on the Cross, so wound, and bruise, and soften our hard hearts, that we may sorrow truly for our sins, and may be pardoned all for His infinite merits, and for Thine infinite mercies' sake. Amen.

XLV.

The Further Exhortation, Part II.

1. If our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.

2. When we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

3. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the Heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with

[1] 1 S. John iii. 21. [2] 1 Cor. xi. 32. [3] 2 Pet. iii. 10.

fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

4. The fearful and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

5. If Thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it?

6. Hear my prayer, O Lord, and consider my desire: hearken unto me for Thy truth and righteousness' sake. And enter not into judgment with Thy servant: for in Thy sight shall no man living be justified.

7. If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

8. I will acknowledge my sin unto Thee: and mine unrighteousness have I not hid.

9. All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God: being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus; Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His Blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.

[4] Rev. xxi. 8. [5] Ps. cxxx. 3. [6] Ps. cxliii. 1, 2. [7] 1 S. John i. 8, 9. [8] Ps. xxxii. 5. [9] Rom. iii. 23-25.

Prayer—Self-Accusation.

O merciful Lord, Who hast declared that he that covereth his sins shall not prosper, but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy: We thank Thee for that goodness which would lead us to repentance, teaching us beneath Thy chastening hand to judge ourselves in time, that we hereafter may not be condemned with the world. Let the sharpness of Thine afflictions awake our souls from heedless sin, that we may bear in mind that reckoning which must one day be given to Thee. Be not extreme to mark what we have done amiss, for Thy just wrath we cannot endure. And we have sinned continually against Thee. Our conscience sets before us those sure judgments which our sins deserve. And no remorse, no penitence, can make full satisfaction for those trespasses to Thy offended justice. Therefore we would fly for refuge to Thy Love and Mercy alone; that Mercy which can never be overpowered by the greatness or the number of our sins. For Jesus' sake, we pray Thee, let the sense of sin forgiven shew us what we were, what still we are, and what we might become, if left unto ourselves. Lord, grant us more and more of love to Thee, and more and more fear of ourselves. Forgive us for His sake, not only for our grave and *deadly* sins, but for our many failures to live accord-

ing to Thy will. Our thoughts, our words, our life, have fallen far, far short of Thy divine intentions for us; but Thou art faithful to Thy promise; all Thy mercy is pledged to us in Christ, if we will but acknowledge that we need Thy mercy. Hear, then, the cry of our returning souls, and for our Saviour's sake, receive us to Thy love again. Amen.

XLVI.

The Profession of Faith.

1. Remember how thou hast received and heard.

2. The word of the truth of the Gospel, which is come unto you as it is in all the world.

3. Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; and that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation, through faith which is in Jesus Christ.

4. When ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but, as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

5. Take heed to thyself, and keep thy soul diligently,

[1] Rev. iii. 3. [2] Col. i. 5, 6. [3] 2 Tim. iii. 14, 15. [4] 1 Thes. ii. 13. [5] Deut. iv. 9.

lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen, and lest they depart from thine heart all the days of thy life.

6. Hold fast the form of sound words which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

7. Whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the word, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

8. Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in Heaven.

9. Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him shall the Son of Man also confess before the Angels of God.

10. Whosoever shall be ashamed of Me and of My words, of him shall the Son of Man be ashamed, when He shall come in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the Holy Angels.

[6] 2 Tim. i. 13. [7] Jas. i. 25. [8] S. Matt. vii. 21. [9] S. Luke xii. 8. [10] S. Luke ix. 26.

Prayer—Examination of Faith.

Almighty God, Who by Thy Apostle S. Paul hast bid us to examine ourselves, whether we be in the Faith, and to prove and know our own selves: Enlighten with Thy grace our minds that we may hold *that* Truth which Thou hast given to Thy Church.

Bestow on us that Faith without which it is impossible to please Thee, a living, acting Faith; that we may come to Thee believing rightly that Thou art the One and only God, Who hast made Heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is; Who hast made us and all the world. Almighty, everlasting God, Who didst so love the world as to give Thine only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly, so stedfastly, to believe in Thy Son Jesus Christ that our faith may be found unreproveable in Thy sight. Teach us to behold in Him the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world; our Advocate with Thee, by Whom we are redeemed from death. Enlighten us by Thy pure Spirit, the Holy Ghost, Who sanctifieth us and all Thy chosen people. Take away from us all doubt and unbelief and give us teachable and childlike spirits. Give us grace to receive Thy word without disputing or questioning; to embrace it with thankfulness, to obey it with diligence, proving our Faith by works of holiness, that we may share the blessedness of those who through faith and patience now inherit the promises. Let us never be ashamed to speak of Thee as our God, our Saviour, our Sanctifier; but strengthen us in perfect faith, that, confessing Thee our God before men, we also may be confessed as Thine before Thy Holy Angels. Amen.

XLVII.

The Confession.

1. Have mercy upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness: according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences. Wash me throughly from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my faults: and my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned: and done this evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified in Thy saying, and clear when Thou art judged. Behold, I was shapen in wickedness: and in sin hath my mother conceived me. But lo, Thou requirest truth in the inward parts: and Thou shalt make me to understand wisdom secretly. Thou shalt purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: Thou shalt wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Thou shalt make me hear of joy and gladness: that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. Turn Thy face from my sins: and put out all my misdeeds. Make me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence: and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. O give me the comfort of Thy help again: and stablish me with Thy free Spirit. Then shall I teach Thy ways unto the wicked: and sinners shall be con-

[1] Ps. li. 1-17.

verted unto Thee. Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God, Thou that art the God of my health: and my tongue shall sing of Thy righteousness. Thou shalt open my lips, O Lord: and my mouth shalt shew Thy praise. For Thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it Thee: but Thou delightest not in burnt offerings. The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit: a broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise.

Prayer—The Confession of Sins.

* O Lord, we beseech Thee, mercifully hear our prayers, and spare all those who confess their sins unto Thee; that they, whose consciences by sin are accused, by Thy merciful pardon may be absolved; through Jesus Christ our Lord. O most mighty God, and merciful Father, Who hast compassion upon all men, and hatest nothing that Thou hast made; Who wouldest not the death of a sinner, but that he should rather turn from his sin and be saved; mercifully forgive us our trespasses; receive and comfort us, who are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins. Thy property is always to have mercy; to Thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare us therefore, good Lord, spare Thy people whom Thou hast redeemed; enter not into judgment with Thy servants,

* From the Commination Service.

who are vile earth, and miserable sinners; but so turn Thine anger from us, who meekly acknowledge our vileness, and truly repent us of our faults, and so make haste to help us in this world, that we may ever live with Thee in the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Turn Thou us, O good Lord, and so shall we be turned. Be favourable, O Lord, be favourable to Thy people. For Thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering, and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment, and in Thy wrath thinkest upon mercy. Spare Thy people, good Lord, spare them, and let not Thine heritage be brought to confusion. Hear us, O Lord, for Thy mercy is great, and after the multitude of Thy mercies look upon us, through the merits and mediation of Thy blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

XLVIII.

The Absolution.

1. All things are of God, Who hath reconciled us unto Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ.

2. Is any sick among you? Let him call for the

[1] 2 Cor. v. 18-20. [2] Jas. v. 14, 15.

elders of the Church; and let them pray over him; and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

3. Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.

4. Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven. Again, I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father Which is in Heaven.

5. Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

6. When the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive.

7. Him that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out.

8. To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against Him.

9. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the Holiest by the Blood of Jesus, and having an High Priest over the house of God; let us draw

[3] S. John xx. 23. [4] S. Matt. xviii. 18, 19. [5] S. Matt. xxviii. 20. [6] Ezek. xviii. 27. [7] S. John vi. 37. [8] Dan. ix. 9. [9] Heb. x. 19-22.

near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

10. Ye shall know them by their fruits.

[10] S. Matt. vii. 16.

Prayer—The Ministry of Reconciliation.

O Lord Jesu Christ, Thou only Judge of all the earth, the only Author of all pardon, Who hast left with Thy ambassadors the ministry of reconciliation, that those who earnestly repent them of their sins, and stedfastly purpose to lead a new life, may be restored to the favour of our Heavenly Father: we beseech Thee, grant us such true penitence, such godly sorrow, such unfeigned purpose to correct and amend our lives, that Thy forgiveness may indeed remain upon us. To Thee alone belongs the right and power to save or to condemn, to bind or loose, Who by Thy precious Blood upon the Cross hast paid the penalty for all men; therefore unto Thee alone we look for pardon. We may not trust in human judgment. Thou alone canst read the secrets of the heart. We pray Thee therefore so to cleanse our hearts from any lurking thought of sin, which must debar us from the blessings of Thy perfect pardon. When sickness or affliction weigh us down, *accept* the prayers that carry us as suppliants before

Thy throne, and save us for Thy mercies' sake, if not from mortal death, yet from that second death our sins have merited. And raise us up, if not to health of body, yet to newness of eternal life. Renew our inward man by true repentance. Confirm in Heaven what in Thy Name has been pronounced on earth; and seal to us that word of peace, which Thou dost send us through the ministry of men. And grant us grace to bring forth thankful fruits of love, whereby we may be known as Thine; for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

XLIX.

The Third Collect, Part I.

1. Let us lift up our hearts with our hands unto God in the Heavens.

2. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you.

3. Have mercy on me, O God, after Thy great goodness: according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences.

4. The Lord will not cast off for ever: but though He cause grief, yet will He have compassion according to the multitude of His mercies. For He doth not afflict willingly nor grieve the children of men.

5. Repent ye, and be converted, that your sins may

[1] Lam. iii. 41. [2] Jas. iv. 8. [3] Ps. li. 1. [4] Lam. iii. 31-33. [5] Acts. iii. 19.

be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

6. Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. For behold this self-same thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear.

7. Thou hast chastised me, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn Thou me, and I shall be turned; for Thou art the Lord my God.

8. And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the Lord. And Nathan said unto David, The Lord also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.

9. I, even I, am He that blotteth out thy transgressions for Mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

10. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

[6] 2 Cor. vii. 10, 11. [7] Jer. xxxi. 18. [8] 2 Sam. xii. 13. [9] Isa. xliii. 25. [10] Heb. viii. 12.

Prayer—An Appeal to the Mercy of God.

Almighty God, Who is a God like unto Thee, that *pardoneth* iniquity; that taketh away the transgression

of Thy people! Thou retainest not Thine anger for ever: not for any merit in ourselves, but because Thy Nature is to delight in mercy. Although, for a time, Thou hidest Thy face from Thy children, chastening them mercifully in this life, that they may be restored to life eternal, yet in the end Thou hast compassion, granting them eternal consolations. Thy face seems turned away from us when we ourselves have turned away from Thee; but Thou wilt turn again and quicken us, who die in trespasses and sin, if we will but draw nigh to Thee, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Saviour. Cast not off for ever those for whom He shed His precious Blood. Though Thou hast caused grief, yet in Thy multitude of mercies still we place our trust. Thou speakest, blessest, comfortest, and makest Thy presence known to all who do desire it, but we cannot feel that Thou art near while we love sin too. Renew us then by true repentance, that we may know Thy full and free forgiveness. Thou couldst pardon those who crucified Thy Son, and therefore may no sin of ours extend beyond Thy Mercy. We cannot bear the sight of our iniquities but in the light of Thy great love. Illuminate the memory of our past falls, that we may sorrow in a godly sort. Enable us to punish and avenge whatever is amiss in us, that so our faults repented of may make us steps to rise towards Thy favour. Make us well content to bear

the heat and burden now, that we may look with joy and hope to Thy times of refreshing, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

L.

The Third Collect, Part II.

1. Lord, bow down Thine ear and hear; open, Lord, Thine eyes and see.

2. Bow down Thine ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

3. Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me: Lord, be Thou my Helper.

4. Now, my God, let, I beseech Thee, Thine eyes be open, and let Thine ears be attent unto the prayer which is made in this place.

5. O my God, incline Thine ear and hear; open Thine eyes and behold our desolation, and the city that is called by Thy Name: for we do not present our supplications before Thee for our righteousness, but for Thy great mercies.

6. Call to remembrance, O Lord, Thy loving-kindnesses which have been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my youth; but according

[1] 2 Kings xix. 16. [2] Ps. xxxi. 2. [3] Ps. xxx. 11. [4] 2 Chron. *vi. 40.* [5] Dan. ix. 18. [6] Ps. xxv. 5-17.

to Thy mercy think Thou upon me for Thy goodness. For Thy Name's sake, O Lord, be merciful to my sin, for it is great. Turn Thou unto me, and have mercy upon me: for I am desolate and in misery. The sorrows of my heart are enlarged: O bring Thou me out of my troubles: look upon my adversity and misery: and forgive me all my sin.

7. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not for Thine own sake, O my God.

8. O remember not our old sins, but have mercy upon us, and that soon: for we are come to great misery. Help us, O God of our Salvation, for the glory of Thy Name: O deliver us and be merciful to our sins, for Thy Name's sake.

9. O deal with Thy servant according unto Thy mercy. O look upon me and be merciful unto me: as Thou usest to do unto those that love Thy Name.

[7] Dan. ix. 19. [8] Ps. lxxix. 8, 9. [9] Ps. cxix. 124, 125.

Prayer—The Cry of the Penitent.

O Lord, the Father of mercies, Who didst love that Son of Man on Whom the Jews did wreak their hate; Who didst clothe those limbs with glory, which they lacerated with the scourge; Who didst crown that Head which they had torn with mocking thorns;

Who didst place all power within those Hands in which they thrust the reed of scorn: Look down on us, Thy sons in Christ, and strengthen with Thine infinite help and might each feeble, wounded soul beset by carnal sins. Our enemies would bind us fast in everlasting chains of darkness, were it not for Thy great mercy. Our sins would sink us down to deepest hell, unless Thy love did hold us up. Receive us then to Thy compassion. Bend Thine ear to these our prayers, and listen to the cry of our returning souls; and when Thou hearest forgive, for Jesus Christ, His sake. Call to remembrance, O Lord, Thy tender mercies, which have been ever of old; that love, which chose us out of the world to be Thine own peculiar people, citizens of Heaven, and Thine adopted children. Keep us Thine, O Lord, and scatter as a morning cloud our sins, and cleanse away all those defilements which obscure the whiteness of the robe Thou gavest us. Remember not our many grievous sins, but blot them from the book of Thy remembrance, with the Blood of Him Who died. We have no claim, no right to Thy forgiveness, but the right which Thou in mercy givest us, that we bear Thy Name, the Name of Thy beloved Son. In Him, we pray Thee, look upon us. In Him receive us to Thy everlasting mercy, for the sake of the same our *only* Advocate and Mediator. Amen.

LI.

The Third Collect, Part III.

1. After the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward men appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

2. Put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind.

3. Behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.

4. That old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world.

5. I fear lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

6. Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour.

7. I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not; for what I would, that I do not; but that which I hate, do I. For I know that in me (that

[1] Tit. iii. 4-6. [2] Eph. iv. 22, 23. [3] S. Luke xxii. 31. [4] Rev. xii. 9. [5] 2 Cor. xi. 3. [6] 1 Pet. v. 8. [7] Rom. vii. 14-25.

is in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing; for to will is present with me, but how to perform that which is good, I find not. For the good that I would I do not; but the evil which I would not, that I do. O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

8. Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

[8] Ps. li. 10.

Prayer—For the Renewal of Grace.

O God the Father, Who didst adopt us for Thy children; O God the Son, Who didst redeem us from the slavery of sin; O God the Holy Ghost, Who didst quicken us from death, and plant a new life within our hearts; O Blessed and Eternal God, Thou Three in One, combining for the work of our salvation: Grant us grace that we may keep some likeness to that image into which we were regenerated. Renew from day to day that gift of Heavenly life, that we may cast away all clinging habits of our sinful nature, putting forth new growths of love and purity, and fruits of holiness above our natural frailty. Guard us from a false security, lest we fall into the wiles of that unwearying foe who never ceaseth tempting us. And suffer not

that we lose heart, for Thou. O God, art stronger to defend and help than he to ruin and destroy. Restore us to that simplicity, that single-minded loyalty to Christ, which makes His life our rule, His death our peace. Arm us with soberness and watchfulness against our deadly enemy, who, strong and fierce and cunning, tries to turn all things to our destruction. By Thy grace have many feeble mortals triumphed. Oh! make us ever mindful of the nearness of our enemy, and our own readiness to fall; for without Thee we cannot stand. As Thou hast, in Thy mercy, already freed us from the tyranny of Satan, so rescue us more and more from his wiles, and keep us from the first beginnings of evil. While our frail and mortal bodies hasten to decay, renew our souls new-born in Christ, that we may live in cheerful hope of that inheritance in glory which Thou hast in store for all Thy faithful children, for His merits, and Thy mercy's sake. Amen.

LII.

The Third Collect, Part IV.

1. Holy Father, keep through Thine own Name those whom Thou hast given Me, that they may be

[1] S. John xvii. 11, 21.

one as We are. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also, which shall believe on Me through their word; that they may be one.

2. This is the Father's will that hath sent Me; that of them which He hath given Me, I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of Him that sent Me, that everyone which seeth the Son, and believeth on Him may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

3. It is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

4. I know Whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed to Him against that day.

5. Give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

6. My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me: and I will give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.

7. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the

[2] S. John vi. 39, 40. [3] S. Matt. xviii. 14. [4] 2 Tim. i. 12. [5] 2 Pet. i. 10, 11. [6] S. John x. 27, 28. [7] Isa. lv. 7.

Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

8. I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

[8] Rom. viii. 38, 39.

Prayer—For Preservation in the Church.

O Jesu Christ, the Shepherd of Thy sheep, Who never slumberest nor sleepest in Thy love and care for us whom Thou hast purchased with Thy precious Blood: Preserve, we pray Thee, those who bear Thy Name, and keep them lest they perish. However fierce our trials, however grievous our temptations, guard Thy chosen through all snares that may beset us. Keep us, who cannot keep ourselves. Give us courage to endure, that we may never be ashamed to own Thy Name, and live as Thine in this world. Sickness and sorrow teach us that we may not linger here for ever. While, then, we are in this world, so guide us that we be not of it. Thou didst set us in the midst of trials on purpose that we may meet them boldly, and overcome them by Thy strength. Endue us with Thy power from on high, that we may persevere and grow unto perfection. If some child of

Thine have wandered, some sheep gone astray, Lord, seek it in Thy love, and bear it back rejoicing to Thy Fold. Destroy all snares of Satan. Guard us by Thy grace, that we fall not away. Defend us from the power of evil men and evil thoughts, for Thou canst overcome them all. Let not these souls for which Thou didst suffer such bitter pains be lost for ever; but rather give us diligence to make our calling and election sure, by turning from our wickedness, and living the risen life in Thee. Permit no pains, no sufferings of body or distress of mind to shake our confidence in Thee; but make us ever hear Thy loving, gentle voice, though narrow be the way, and hard the struggle, unto life eternal. Cheer us with Thy comfort, until we come at last to be with Thee where Thou art, in the mansions Thou hast prepared for us in Heaven, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

LIII.

The Third Collect, Part V.

1. O consider mine adversity, and deliver me: for I do not forget Thy law.

2. Wash me throughly from my wickedness: and cleanse me from my sin: for I acknowledge my faults:

[1] Ps. cxix. 153. [2] Ps. li. 2, 3.

and my sin is ever before me. A broken and contrite heart, O God, shalt Thou not despise.

3. To this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit.

4. Thou tellest my flittings; put my tears into Thy bottle: are not these things noted in Thy book?

5. In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order, for thou shalt die, and not live. Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed unto the Lord, and said, Remember now, O Lord, I beseech Thee, how I have walked before Thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in Thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, saying, Go, and say unto Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David, thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears.

6. There was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me. For this I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities.

[3] Isa. lxvi. 2. [4] Ps. lvi. 8. [5] Isa. xxxviii. 2-5. [6] 2 Cor. xii. 7-10.

7. And Jesus kneeled down and prayed, saying, Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me, nevertheless, not My will but Thine be done.

[7] S. Luke xxii. 41, 42.

Prayer—For Acceptance of Contrition.

O Heavenly Father, Whose wise providence doth order all things; Who dost care for all, the greatest and the least; for not a sparrow falleth to the ground without Thy care: Consider Thine afflicted children. We are dear in Thy sight, for Thy Son has purchased us with His own most precious Blood. Behold us when we suffer. Hear our cry, and help us for Thy mercy's sake. In pity Thou dost smite that Thou mayest heal, and sendest chastisement that we may turn and repent, and seek to Thee for pardon. Grant us true contrition. Accept our tears, O Thou, Who one day wilt wipe away all tears from all eyes. Assuage our pain, O Thou, Who comforted the dying thief in his last agonies, by the sweet promise of the Saviour, "To-day shalt thou be with Me in Paradise." Should tribulation, or sorrow, or sickness increase upon us, suffer not our faith to fail, nor let us lose our confidence in Thy enduring love. If it should be that to all appearance the time of our dissolution draweth near, bestow upon us true repentance for our many sins, and bring us sorrowing with godly sorrow to Thy

throne of grace, that Thou mayest hear our prayers as Thou didst hear the prayers of Thy servant Hezekiah. When Thou seest good to check our exaltation or presumption, by bringing our high looks down to the dust, enable us at such times to fly to Thee, reposing in that same compassionate care which comforted the mourners, and healed the sick, when Jesus went about among us doing good. Teach us, like Him, to pray, "If Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me: yet not My will, but Thine, be done." For His dear sake, Lord, hear our prayers. Amen.

LIV.

The Third Collect, Part VI.

1. Lo, this is the man that took not God for his strength, but trusted in the multitude of his riches, and strengthened himself in his wickedness. As for me, I am like a green olive tree in the house of God: my trust is in the tender mercy of God for ever and ever.

2. In Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust, let me never be put to confusion: but rid me, and deliver me in Thy righteousness; incline Thine ear unto me, and save me. Be Thou my stronghold whereunto I may alway resort. Thou hast promised to help me, for Thou art my house of defence, and my castle.

[1] Ps. lii. 8, 9. [2] Ps. lxxi. 1, 2.

3. If Thou, O Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it? For there is mercy with Thee, therefore shalt Thou be feared. I look for the Lord; my soul doth wait for Him: in His word is my trust. My soul fleeth unto the Lord, before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch. O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy: and with Him is plenteous redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his sins.

4. Lead me forth in Thy truth, and learn me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; in Thee hath been my hope all the day long.

5. Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.

6. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the Blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which He hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, His flesh; and having an High Priest over the House of God: let us draw near with a true heart, in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

[3] Ps. cxxx. 3-8. [4] Ps. xxv. 4. [5] Rom. iv. 7, 8. [6] Heb. x. 19-22.

Prayer—Trust in God's Mercy.

Almighty and Everlasting God, Heavenly Father, Who art long-suffering towards Thy people, although

they take not Thee for their strength: Grant of Thine infinite goodness that we may put our trust in nothing else but Thee. Take from us all dependence on our health or strength or worldly comforts; in our impunity from the punishments we have so richly deserved for our most grievous sins; and lead us by Thy timely chastisements to feel and know that nothing can avail us but Thy favour, Thy long-suffering and love in Christ. Pour not out Thine indignation upon us, nor visit us with Thy wrathful displeasure, but when we are poor and in heaviness raise us by Thy help. Implant in us such perfect trust in Thee, that we may never be confounded. Grant us that hope which maketh not ashamed, hope in Thy Son our Saviour; hope in Thine infinite love, and purest bounty; hope in the merits of His precious death and passion. We dare not claim Thy justice, but we trust Thy promise. We boast not of that blessedness which waits on those who live in spotless purity, and fervent love, and true obedience, for such we are not; but we rest upon Thy Holy Word, which tells us of the blessedness of Thy forgiving mercy. Christ has died for us. He lives for us. He has by His death made forgiveness and a new life possible, and still by His Heavenly life and intercession provides us with a faithful Friend, Who helps us on to follow Him. Let not our sins then come between Thee and us, but wash them all away

in that pure fountain of His Blood. And keep us in this faith, that when we come to die we may awake in everlasting glory, for His sake. Amen.

LV.

The Third Collect, Part VII.

1. For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of Whom the whole family in Heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend with all saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

2. The Lord preserve him, and keep him alive, that he may be blessed upon earth: and deliver not Thou him into the will of his enemies. The Lord comfort him when he lieth sick upon his bed: and make Thou all his bed in his sickness.

3. Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.

4. Strengthened with all might, according to His

[1] *Eph.* iii. 14. [2] Ps. xli. 2, 3. [3] Eph. vi. 10. [4] Col. i. 11.

glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness.

5. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might He increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall; but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.

6. My grace is sufficient for thee: for My strength is made perfect in weakness.

7. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.

[5] Isa. xl. 29-31. [6] 2 Cor. xii. 9. [7] Rom. xv. 13.

Prayer—For Strength of the Holy Spirit.

Lord God Almighty, look down from Heaven upon Thy Church and people, the sheep of Thy pasture, the children of Thy family in Jesus Christ our Lord, and send to us Thy Holy Spirit to comfort us, and to strengthen us according to Thy glory. When earthly comforts fail, and mortal strength decays, and pains and sorrows rack these feeble frames, then, Lord, send down Thy comfort; pour into our souls the healing presence of Thy Holy Spirit; and smooth our weary couch with Heavenly hopes and consolations. These

chastisements of Thine are signs that we are not fo saken. In Thy wisdom Thou dost lay Thy crosse upon Thy servants for wise ends, to purify and perfec them. Sustain us therefore by Thy grace, that w may keep our trust in Thy good povidence, and hol our faith secure unto the end. Grant that althoug our outward man decay, our inner man, the immorta part of us, may grow in faith and grace from day t day, rooted and grounded in Thee still more an more; and that, when these earthly senses grow mor weak and feeble, our faith may still be stronger nourished and fed by Thy good Spirit. Give to us a deeper sense of our own insufficiency, that we may commend ourselves the more to Thy Divine power Teach us to cast aside that seeming strength which cannot overcome the temptations that beset us, and fill us instead with Thy strength, which alone is able to endure. So wilt Thou make us feel that Thou ar nigh at hand, a Helper and a Healer, as of old through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

LVI.

The Third Collect, Part VIII.

1. All the days of my appointed time will I wait til my change come.

[1] Job xiv. 14.

2. We know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from Heaven: if so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked, for we in this tabernacle do groan being burdened: not for that we would be unburdened, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now He that hath wrought us for the self-same thing is God, Who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit. Therefore we are always confident, knowing that whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) we are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

3. By faith (Abraham) sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose Builder and Maker is God. Now they desire a better country, that is, a Heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city.

4. Ourselves also, which have the first-fruits of the Spirit, we ourselves groan within ourselves waiting for

[2] 2 Cor. v. 1-8. [3] Heb. xi. 9-16. [4] Rom. viii. 23.

the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body.

5. Having a desire to depart and be with Christ which is far better.

6. Thou shalt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is the fulness of joy: and at Thy right hand there is pleasure for evermore.

7. Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest.

[5] Phil. i. 23. [6] Ps. xvi. 12. [7] Heb. iv. 11

Prayer—For Final Acceptance.

Heavenly Father, Who hast placed us for a while within this earthly house of mortal flesh, we thank Thee for those warnings wherewith Thou remindest us that this is not our lasting home. This earthly house must fall, but from its ruins Thou canst raise up an abiding mansion, wherein we may dwell for ever in Thy Heaven. In this life we groan beneath afflictions and temptations, sickness and decay. The end we cannot look for but with fear, for we have merited Thy judgments: but, we pray Thee, give us faith and patience; strengthen and uphold us in the strife, that we may gain at last the crown of victory, through Him Who died for us. We do believe that Thy great purpose for us is immortal life. For this Thou hast created and redeemed us; for this Thy providence has ordered all our lives. Prevent us lest we fall by any wilful unrepented sin from Thy great mercy; and enable us

to use the pledge and earnest of Thy gift, that Holy Spirit whereby Thou hast sealed us unto the day of redemption. Renew and quicken in our souls pure thoughts of faith and love and peace, those portions of Thy Heaven which even in this life Thou dost bestow. But guard us from the danger of relying on Thy promises while still our hearts are fixed on earthly things. Prepare us in this vale of pilgrimage and sojourning for that blessed Rest which awaits Thy faithful servants in the Heavenly Home. Whatsoever may befall us in this world, whatever ills may shake this feeble frame, be Thou our Refuge and Strength, our Comforter and Hope. Remove all doubts and fears, that we may journey onward in Thy narrow way, until we come at last unto Thy favour, through the merits of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

LVII.

The Psalm.

1. In Thee, O Lord, have I put my trust, let me never be put to confusion: but rid me, and deliver me in Thy righteousness; incline Thine ear unto me, and save me. Be Thou my Stronghold, whereunto I may alway resort: Thou hast promised to help me, for Thou art my House of Defence, and my Castle.

[1] Ps. lxxi. 1-16.

Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the ungodly: out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man. For Thou, O Lord God art the thing that I long for: Thou art my Hope, even from my youth. Through Thee have I been holden up ever since I was born: Thou art He that took me out of my mother's womb; my praise shall be always of Thee. I am become as it were a monster unto many: but my sure trust is in Thee. O let my mouth be filled with Thy praise: that I may sing of Thy glory and honour all the day long. Cast me not away in the time of age: forsake me not when my strength faileth me. For mine enemies speak against me, and they that lay wait for my soul take their counsel together, saying, God hath forsaken him; persecute him and take him, for there is none to deliver him. Go not far from me, O God: My God, haste Thee to help me. Let them be confounded and perish that are against my soul: let them be covered with shame and dishonour that seek to do me evil. As for me, I will patiently abide alway: and will praise Thee more and more. My mouth shall daily speak of Thy righteousness and salvation: for I know no end thereof. I will go forth in the strength of the Lord God; and will make mention of Thy righteousness only. Thou, O God, hast taught me from my youth up until now: therefore will I tell of Thy wondrous works. Forsake me not, O God, in

mine old age, when I am gray-headed: Until I have shewed Thy strength unto this generation, and Thy power to all them that are yet for to come.

Prayer—For Patient Abiding and Help.

O God, our Castle and House of Defence in the time of trouble, the only Stronghold of our hope, according to Thy promise, "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out:" We come to Thee, for in Thee only is our trust. Incline Thine ear and save us from these enemies within and without, which ever strive to put us to confusion. Within us is an ever-active foe, "the law that is in our members," our natural propensity to sin. Without us strives continually the spirit of all evil to get the dominion over us. But be Thou still our hope, as Thou hast been even from our earliest breath our Maker and Preserver. Hold us up, whom Thou hast quickened with the new birth in Thy Holy Church. Renew Thy Holy Spirit within us, that we may live unto Thy praise. When sickness, or trial, or sorrow bring us to the dust, and many pass us by as those in whom there is no pleasure, do Thou, Lord, take us up, and cheer us with Thy favour. Cast us not away in time of weakness and decay, lest we should seem forsaken by our mighty God, against Thy promise. But as our strength fails let Thine abound, and witness to the world the

excellency of Thy power and love. Do Thou
Thy glorious might against the wiles of Satan
not pains or sorrows rob us of our hope; but g
patience, that we may abide all trials, till ou
shall end in sight, our suffering in glory. Fr
youth up Thou hast taught us holy discipline
our adoption Thou hast fed us with the Bread c
continue now Thy goodness. Teach us by the
example of our crucified Redeemer how to
whatsoever Thou mayest lay upon us, for th
and through the merits of the same, our S
Jesus Christ. Amen.

LVIII.

The Antiphon, Part I.

1. All we like sheep have gone astray; we
turned every one to his own way; and the Lor
laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

2. All have sinned, and come short of the gl
God; being justified freely by His grace throu
redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom Go
set forth to be a propitiation through faith i
Blood, to declare His righteousness for the rem
of sins that are past, through the forbearance of

[1] Isa. liii. 6. [2] Rom. iii. 23, 25.

3. Who His own self bare our sins in His own Body on the tree.

4. And hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.

5. Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him, stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.

6. Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour.

7. And He is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

8. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men whereby we must be saved.

9. God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.

10. He hath made Him to be sin for us, Who knew no sin: that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

11. And being made perfect, He became the Author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him.

[3] 1 Pet. ii. 24. [4] Gal. iii. 13. [5] Isa. liii. 4, 5. [6] Eph. v. 2. [7] 1 S. John ii. 2. [8] Acts iv. 12. [9] 2 Cor. v. 19. [10] 2 Cor. v. 21. [11] Heb. v. 9.

Prayer—A Prayer to the Redeemer.

O blessed Jesus, our most gracious and most compassionate Saviour, Who didst willingly submit to the greatest indignities, pains, and sorrows, for the expiation of our sins: We most humbly beseech Thee, by that unutterable love which moved Thee to undergo so great and many sufferings for our sakes, to intercede for us with Thy Father; that those sins may be pardoned for which Thou so dearly hast atoned. And that by the continual shewing forth of Thy meritorious death, the God of all compassions may be moved in His just wrath to remember mercy. So may He admit us to a participation of all those benefits which Thou hast purchased for all mankind, by Thy most precious death upon the Cross. By Thine infinite goodness, O blessed Jesus, overcome all our vileness, for we are vile indeed; and though in mercy our transgressions have been put away, yet we are prone to sin. And sin is grievous and hateful in the sight of the righteous God; and nothing could atone for it but Thy most precious Blood! Oh, by Thy worthiness atone for our unworthiness. By Thy spotlessness remove our guilt. Assist our weakness by Thy strength. Bestow on us the robe of purity, instead of the burden of our sins; Thy healing grace, instead of the stripes we have deserved; the new and

risen life, instead of the second death we have so richly merited. O blessed Jesus, Saviour of mankind, vouchsafe to apply to our souls the infinite merits of Thy Passion, that we may be willing to accept cheerfully for Thy sake all the sufferings of this our pilgrimage on earth, and look with joy and hope to praise Thee in Thy glory, with the Father and the Holy Ghost for evermore. Amen.

LIX.

The Antiphon, Part II.

1. Ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold: but with the precious Blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

2. It pleased the Lord to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief: when Thou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand. Because He hath poured out His soul unto death: and He was numbered with the transgressors; and He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

3. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the

[1] 1 Pet. i. 18, 19. [2] Isa. liii. 10-12. [3] 1 Pet. iii. 18.

just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God; being put to death in the flesh but quickened by the Spirit.

4. By His own Blood He entered in once into the Holy Place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctified to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the Blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

5. Wherefore He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him, seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for them.

6. For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fulness dwell, and having made peace through the blood of His Cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself.

7. Who being the brightness of His Father's glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

[4] Heb. ix. 12-14. [5] Heb. vii. 25. [6] Col. i. 19, 20. [7] Heb. i. 3.

Prayer—His Cross and Precious Blood.

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of the living God, Who, innocent, didst submit for our sakes to die a shameful

death: Grant that we may ever bear in mind that our sins were the false witnesses; our blasphemies and evil speakings were the cause of Thy accepting with gladness the sentence of the unjust judge. May this thought make us hate those sins which caused Thy death. Enable us by virtue of Thy Cross and bitter Passion cheerfully to bear the trials and afflictions of this our earthly pilgrimage, that we may be always ready to take up our cross and follow Thee. Make us by thinking of Thy sufferings to be watchful against temptations. Stretch out Thy Sacred Hand to keep us back from falling into any grievous sin. By Thy Cross may the world be crucified to us, and we unto the world; and grant that we may never shrink from suffering, if we be counted worthy to suffer for Thy sake. Teach us so to mourn that we may be comforted, and escape those dreadful judgments prepared for them who love Thee not. Take from us all false shame, conceit, and pride, and make us so to humble ourselves in this life, that we may escape everlasting shame in the life to come. Subdue our hearts with holy fear and love, and since it was our sins that pierced Thee, enable us to nail unto Thy Cross all that offends Thee. In Thy death is all our Hope. So let us live henceforth to Thee, that whether we live or die we may be Thine. Come Thou and rest within our hearts, that we may live a new life in Thee, in perfect

reconciliation with our Father. And receive us at the last in Thy great love and mercy to Thy blessed and eternal Home in Heaven, for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

LX.

The Antiphon, Part III.

1. Blessed is he whose unrighteousness is forgiven: and whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the Lord imputeth no sin: and in whose spirit there is no guile.

2. For this shall every one that is godly make his prayer unto Thee, in a time when Thou mayest be found: but in the great water-floods they shall not come nigh him. Thou art a place to hide me in, Thou shalt preserve me from trouble: Thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance.

3. I sought the Lord and He heard me: yea, He delivered me out of all my fear. They had an eye unto Him and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him: yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles. The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them. O taste and see how gracious the Lord is: blessed is the man that trusteth

[1] Ps. xxxii. 1, 2. [2] Ibid, 7, 8. [3] Ps. xxxiv. 4, 9.

in Him. O fear the Lord, ye that are His saints: for they that fear Him lack nothing.

4. We know that all things work together for good to them that fear God.

5. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.

6. But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

7. Now unto Him Who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory, with exceeding joy, to the Only-wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

[4] Rom. viii. 28. [5] 1 Cor. ii. 9. [6] Jude 20, 21. [7] Jude 24, 25.

Prayer—Safety and Help in Christ.

O Jesu Christ, Thou Son of the Blessed, Lamb of God, Which takest away the sins of the world: In Thy all-sufficient merits alone we trust for the remission of our sins. Through the Blood of Thy Cross we hope for peace with God, for strength against the powers of darkness, for safety, and help, and salvation; the communion of Thy Holy Spirit here, and everlasting bliss with Thee hereafter. In Thy unfathomable

grace, and the unsearchable depths of Thy love, is our trust. In Thy Name standeth our help. Have mercy on all broken hearts, and heal them; all struggling with temptation, and rescue them; all fainting in despair, and raise them up. Have mercy on all that groan beneath their sins; on all that fall away from Thee; on all that waver in their faith, and stablish, strengthen, settle them. O Blessed Jesus, Who didst shed Thy Blood for our souls to save them, shed Thy Holy Spirit upon all, and heal them. Have mercy on all in misery, or peril, or pain. Preserve them, Thou Who didst on earth so mercifully relieve and succour the distressed. Thou God of all help and comfort, take us to Thy tender care, and save and succour both our bodies and our souls. Thou that didst redeem us all, keep us for ever Thine, we pray Thee, for Thine infinite mercy's sake; and keep us in the love of God, until we come with all the multitude of Thy redeemed saints to those eternal mansions which Thou hast prepared in the kingdom of Thy Father. Bring us in Thine own good time to share Thy glory, and to praise Thee, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, One God for evermore. Amen.

The Benedictions.

The Almighty Lord, Who is a most strong tower to *to all* them that put their trust in Him, to Whom all

things in Heaven, in earth, and under the earth, do bow and obey, be now and evermore thy defence; and make thee know and feel that there is none other Name under Heaven given to man, in Whom, and through Whom, thou mayest receive health and salvation, but only the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit thee. The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make His face to shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace, both now and evermore. Amen.

A Prayer for a Sick Child.

O Almighty Lord, and merciful Father, to Whom alone belong the issues of life and death; Look down from Heaven, we humbly beseech Thee, with the eyes of mercy upon this child now lying upon the bed of sickness: visit *him*, O Lord, with Thy salvation; deliver *him* in Thy good appointed time from *his* bodily pain, and save *his* soul for Thy mercies' sake: that, if it shall be Thy pleasure to prolong *his* days here on earth, *he* may live to Thee, and be an instrument of Thy glory, by serving Thee faithfully, and doing good in *his* generation; or else receive him into

those Heavenly habitations, where the souls of them that sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and felicity. Grant this, O Lord, for Thy mercies' sake, in the same Thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer for a Sick Person, when there appeareth small hope of recovery.

O Father of mercies, and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; We fly unto Thee for succour in behalf of this Thy servant, here lying under Thy hand in great weakness of body. Look graciously upon *him*, O Lord; and the more the outward man decayeth, strengthen *him*, we beseech Thee, so much the more continually with Thy grace and Holy Spirit in the inner man. Give *him* unfeigned repentance for all the errors of *his* life past, and stedfast faith in Thy Son Jesus; that *his* sins may be done away by Thy mercy, and *his* pardon sealed in Heaven, before *he* go hence, and be no more seen. We know, O Lord, that there is no word impossible with Thee; and that, if Thou wilt, Thou canst even yet raise *him* up, and grant *him* a longer continuance amongst us: yet, forasmuch as in all appearance the time of *his* dissolution draweth near, so fit and prepare *him*, we beseech Thee,

against the hour of death, that after *his* departure hence in peace, and in Thy favour, *his* soul may be received into Thine everlasting kingdom, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

A Commendatory Prayer for a Sick Person at the time of Departure.

O Almighty God, with Whom do live the spirits of just men made perfect, after they are delivered from their earthly prisons; we humbly commend the soul of this Thy servant, our dear *brother*, into Thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator, and most merciful Saviour; most humbly beseeching Thee, that it may be precious in Thy sight. Wash it, we pray Thee, in the blood of that immaculate Lamb, that was slain to take away the sins of the world; that whatsoever defilements it may have contracted in the midst of this miserable and naughty world, through the lusts of the flesh, or the wiles of Satan, being purged and done away, it may be presented pure and without spot before Thee. And teach us who survive, in this and other like daily spectacles of mortality, to see how frail and uncertain our own condition is; and so to number our days, that we may seriously apply our hearts to that holy and Heavenly wisdom,

whilst we live here, which may in the end bring us to life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Persons troubled in Mind or in Conscience.

O blessed Lord, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comforts; we beseech Thee, look down in pity and compassion upon this Thy afflicted servant. Thou writest bitter things against *him*, and makest *him* to possess *his* former iniquities; Thy wrath lieth hard upon *him*, and *his* soul is full of trouble: but, O merciful God, Who hast written Thy Holy Word for our learning, that we, through patience and comfort of Thy Holy Scriptures, might have hope; give *him* a right understanding of *himself*, and of Thy threats and promises; that *he* may neither cast away *his* confidence in Thee, nor place it anywhere but in Thee. Give *him* strength against all *his* temptations, and heal all *his* distempers. Break not the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking flax. Shut not up Thy tender mercies in displeasure; but make *him* to hear of joy and gladness, that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. Deliver *him* from fear of the enemy, and lift up the light of Thy countenance upon *him*, and give *him* peace, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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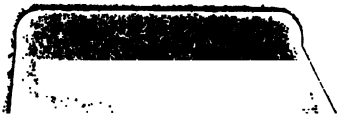
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